

The Albany Church Pennies

By HOWARD H. KURTH

THE Presbyterian Church in Albany was formed in 1763 at the conclusion of the French war. In that year the city decided to the church the ground on which the first building was erected. The lot is believed to have included the block bounded by Hudson, Grand, Beaver and William Streets. The church was erected fronting east near the northeast corner of Hudson and Grand. The structure was of wood, of considerable size, with a tall steeple. It

was occupied by the church till 1796. There were periods when the congregation was scattered and inactive, especially during the war of the revolution when services were suspended. But in 1785, Rev. John McDonald was installed pastor, and the church shortly afterwards reorganized on a more permanent footing. Mr. McDonald, being deposed in 1795, moved to Montreal, where in 1800 he was restored to the ministry. He then returned to Albany to found the United Presbyterian Church.

In Munsell's "Annals of Albany" it is recorded that, "on the 4th of January 1790 the trustees of the First Presbyterian Church resolved that one thousand coppers be stamp-

ed 'Church penny' and placed in the hands of the treasurer, for the purpose of exchanging with the congregation at the rate of twelve for one shilling, in order to add respect to the weekly collections."¹

To understand the need for such a resolution and the meaning of the phrase, "to add respect to the weekly collections," one must realize the deplorable state of the country's circulating media of exchange, especially in regard to the current cop-

pers. The following extract is from a letter, dated New York 1789, "There has been a mighty convulsion here lately on account of the coppers. We abound with them in this place and they are generally light and bad. On a sudden the merchants refused to take them at more than half, and some at more than one-third, what they had passed at. At Philadelphia I hear they have fared much in the same manner."²

Undoubtedly, similar conditions existed at Albany. Indeed the coppers then in circulation were composed almost entirely of coins from

other states, bountown tokens, and old British halfpennies mostly worn smooth or counterfeit. It seems not too presumptuous to assume that the coppers that found their way to the church collection plate were not always among the most acceptable of these. Under the circumstances, a system by which the treasurer could receive good silver from the congregation in exchange for church tokens was necessary to insure a respectable collection.

Nor was the Albany church the only one that found it advisable to take such measures. On Sept. 6th of the same year, 1790, the Dutch Reformed Church of Schenectady issued paper notes of one, two, three, and six pence to the amount of 100 pounds (\$250.00).³ Paper notes of two pence, and possibly of other denominations, dated Aug. 28th, 1792, were likewise issued for the congregation of the Presbyterian Church of Troy. An original of this Troy note was at one time in the collection of the Albany Institute. A facsimile, probably quite accurate, was printed as an illustration in John Woodworth's "Reminiscences of Troy, 1790 to 1807."⁴ The notes of the Schenectady and Troy churches, by the way, were printed in Albany by C. R. and G. Webster. Both issues are ornamented with the same type of crossed bars and scroll work.

In New York State the British terminology of pounds, shillings and pence was used in keeping accounts; but the monetary system was based on the Spanish dollar of eight shillings, and not on the pound sterling. The New York shilling of account was thus equal to the Spanish real. The term shilling in this sense is now virtually obsolete. However, we have recently heard an old farmer at Vischer Ferry, an out of the way village on the Mohawk above Cohoes, quote prices in so many "shill-

in'," just as in the west we frequently meet with the equivalent expression of so many bits.⁵

We gather from various Albany city ordinances regulating ferry rates and the price of bread, that the terms "coppers" and "pence" were used interchangeably, though we are not certain on this point, and at times the coppers may have been discounted. The ferry rate for transporting a barrel of rum, sugar, molasses or other full barrel is listed at "6 pence," while the rate for transporting a dozen steel traps is fixed in the same ordinance at "6 coppers."

Counterfeiting of silver coins seems to have been practiced in spite of the severe penalties. At the July term of the Supreme Court at Albany, 1786, we note that one Caleb Gardner was convicted of passing counterfeit Spanish dollars and was sentenced to be hanged.

The country's most urgent need for dependable coins of small denomination was recognized in the writings of George Washington, Thomas Jefferson and others. President Washington said in his third annual message to Congress on October 25th, 1791, "The disorders in the existing currency, and especially the scarcity of small change, a scarcity so peculiarly distressing to the poorer classes, strongly recommend the carrying into immediate effect the resolution already entered into concerning the establishment of a mint."⁶

It might be of some interest to try to picture what the City of Albany was like in 1790. The census

¹ "The Numismatist," Nov. 1929, "Schenectady Church Money," by George M. Korb.
² Second edition, p. 51, published and edited by Joel Munsell, Albany, 1860.
³ See "The Numismatist," May 1935, "Bits and York Shillings," by E. L. Reid.
⁴ "The Numismatist," March 1935, "Side-lights on Numismatics," by Charles N. Schenck.

of that year shows a population of 3,506, including some 572 slaves.

State Street in 1790 was quite different from the street we are familiar with today. A fort stood at the top of the hill just above Lodge Street, though how it could have been of much use to the defense of the city is not quite clear. State Street itself was at that time a double-laned thoroughfare, paved at the sides only, the center being occupied by various buildings—a town hall, market place, fire engine house, and the Dutch and English churches. The English or Episcopal Church was opposite Barrack Street (now Chapel Street), while the Dutch church was at the bottom of the hill near the corner of Market Street (now Broadway). The big elm tree that stood for so many years at the northwest corner of State and Pearl Streets was even at that time a prominent landmark, and as a popular loitering place probably ranked next to the City Tavern across the street. South Pearl, then known as Washington Street, was a narrow arched alleyway running alongside of the tavern. There is even said to have been a gate by which the street could be closed at the entrance from State Street.

Transportation was slow and uncertain. There was considerable traffic on the river by sailing sloop, but the time required to go to New York and back by this means depended to a great extent on the currents and tides, and on which way the wind was blowing. A mail stage ran to New York twice a week, though the contract required the mail to be carried but once a week. A stage also ran between Albany and Lansingburgh (now the north end of Troy). At that time newly-named Troy, formerly known as Van der Heyden's, was a promising settlement of several houses but was less import-

ant than Lansingburgh. Another stage wagon ran from Albany to Schenectady, Canajoharie, and as far west as Fort Plain, making the round trip to the latter place in seven days.

There were at least a couple of small manufacturing establishments in Albany in 1790, a nail works erected by Messrs. Stevenson, Douw & Ten Byck, and another by Garret Witbeck, and a newly-erected tobacco and snuff mill by Mr. James Caldwell. Albany was primarily a trading center. The shallow-drafted river sloops from this port visited all corners of the world, one making a remarkable voyage to China as early as 1785-'87.

It would be interesting to examine an Albany merchant's stock of this period. In 1790 Robert McClallen of 10 State Street, at the corner of Green Street, advertised a general assortment of goods lately imported in the "Goliath" from London. Besides various cloths, trimmings, satinetts, lastings, cloaking, halfthicks, hats, handkerchiefs, etc., he mentions 2, 2½ and 3 point blankets, brass and steel shoe and knee buckles, bar lead, duck and pigeon shot, gun powder, London pewter, Swede's iron, common rum, and window glass. The prevalence of barter is indicated by the added note, "Pots and pearl ashes, staves, and other country produce taken in payment."

In presenting these few fragments of local history, gathered for the most part from Munsell's "Annals of Albany," we seem to have wandered away from the church penny. Unfortunately, there were no local numismatists in 1790 to record for us a detailed description of exactly what the church token looked like, and we have to be content with the rather vague mention of a copper piece bearing the words, "Church penny."

In an auction catalogue by W. Elliot Woodward, 1863, we find lot 2079 described as a "church penny," without the letter "D." Woodward attributes this piece to Albany by quoting the resolution of the church trustees of January 4th, 1790, as found in Munsell's Annals. The succeeding lot, 2080, he describes as "another piece of subsequent emission stamped with the letter 'D.'" Both these specimens are believed to have been purchased by Bushnell. The sale catalogue of the Bushnell collection in 1882 lists apparently the same two pieces as lots 897 and 898, and copies the same description as used in 1863. In the famous Miekley collection, also catalogued by Woodward, 1867, we find another specimen, lot 2471, described as a "New York cent, church penny, of great rarity," and he again quotes the extract from Munsell.

We have no way of determining on what evidence, if any, these particular church pennies were identified as the ones mentioned in the Albany records. There is nothing on the tokens themselves, with the possible exception of the mysterious letter "D," to offer any clue as to where they might be from.

Mr. Woodward was a distinguished numismatist of unquestionable sincerity, though this is no guarantee that he may not have been a bit over-zealous on occasion. He was probably familiar with Munsell's works since the two gentlemen were not entirely unknown to each other. Indeed Munsell printed many of Woodward's sale catalogues.

Crosby, in his "Early Coins of America," 1876, for some reason or other makes no mention of the Albany pennies. It does not seem likely that this could have been entirely an oversight on Crosby's part, as he must have seen Woodward's attribution and was familiar with both the

Miekley and the Bushnell collections.

Woodward's identification of the church pennies as the ones mentioned in the Albany records seems to have been accepted without question by succeeding numismatists, including those great American cataloguers, the Chapmans of Philadelphia. Henry Chapman devoted considerable space to an "Albany church penny" in his catalogue of the extensive Jenks collection, 1921, and illustrated it in the plates, lot 5507.

After quoting verbatim the reference used by Woodward, Chapman added, "Surely a necessity coinage! and a curiosity of low finance, for it appears the congregation were loath to part with a shilling at a time for the uses of the church and this token gave them the opportunity to spin it out for contributions for three months! From the Mills collection. Very rare and seldom offered." The Chapmans, by the way, also catalogued the Mills collection, 1904.

Edgar H. Adams, in his list of "United States Store Cards," 1920, mentions an Albany penny of the First Presbyterian Church as N. Y. No. 2. Likewise, Wayne Raymond, in his "Early New York Merchants' Tokens," 1936, and in the recent "Standard Catalogues," 1940-42, illustrates a specimen as N. Y. State No. 1.

We have with us tonight both varieties of these tokens reputed to be from Albany. If numismatic literature has failed to give us a complete and unbroken record of these interesting pieces, an examination of the tokens themselves leaves us almost equally in the dark. They bear simply the word "CHURCH" in capital letters, with the word "Penny" in script letters below, all within a circular sunken panel of twenty-four scallops. One variety has a blank space in the field above the word "CHURCH." In the other vari-

ety, this space is occupied by the script letter "D." However, a careful examination proves that they are both from the same die. The reverses are blank. The tokens have an old appearance and the style seems to be of about the 18th century. There is said to be a specimen in the cabinet of the American Numismatic Society stamped over a George III halfpenny of undeterminable date.⁷

The significance of the letter "D" on some or most of the church pennies is rather obscure. It may stand for the name of some town, though we have never heard of the token being attributed to any place other than Albany. The most general opinion of our correspondents seems to be that the letter is the Latin abbreviation for penny as used by the British. It seems however that such an abbreviation would be rather superfluous in view of the fact that the word "Penny" was already on the token. The fact that a number of pieces were struck without the "D," and that the letter was later added to the die, seems to indicate that it must have had a more essential significance than a mere repetition of the denomination. At one time we were of the opinion that in one of our specimens the letter "D" may have been neatly removed from the token itself by a skillful engraver. However, after examining several specimens with particular attention to the smoothness and uniform oxidation of the field, we are convinced that this is not the case. We are quite certain that the "D" was cut into the die subsequent to the striking of those pennies not bearing the letter. It would make a plausible explanation to suppose that the tokens with the "D" may have been issued for the Dutch Church. However, this supposition is a mere conjecture and we have no evidence to support it.

The reader may have sensed that

we have implied the question as to whether or not these church pennies really are from Albany. We regret that we have been unable to furnish a more conclusive answer, but we believe that they are. This belief is based not alone on the rather negative evidence that these tokens have not been ascribed to any other place, but on the unanimous opinion of a number of distinguished numismatists and historians of the past and present. Unless some strong evidence to the contrary is unearthed, these tokens will continue to be recognized as the 1790 church pennies of Albany. As such, they are entitled to a more prominent place among the early American coins and tokens. It is true that these roughly stamped pieces of copper bear no pictorial device. Most people would consider them entirely devoid of any artistic merit. They have, however, a certain practical simplicity that one would expect considering their purpose. As historical mementoes they serve to demonstrate the scarcity of money in general, and the particular need for a negotiable copper currency, in those years just prior to the establishment of the United States mint. They have also served incidentally

⁷ We have stated that the reverses of the church pennies are blank. The reverse of our specimen without the "D" bears a potted shield with the faint outline of some diagonal inscription. This unique peculiarity probably has no bearing on our story, and indeed did much to hinder our research by leading us up a blind alley. However, we feel that some brief explanation is necessary. It seems that a diecutter, Mr. C. Tison of Montreal, charged to use the blank reverse of this particular penny for a trial impression of an unfinished die that he was making for the jeweler and watchmaker, A. Mengon, also of Montreal. The finished die was afterwards used in striking the reverses of several varieties of souvenir advertising medallions, issued for Mr. Mengon in connection with the Provincial exposition held at Montreal in 1891. Through the kindness of Mr. J. Douglas Ferguson, we are able to exhibit one of these medallions for comparison.

to help remind us of an interesting period of local history.

We are especially indebted to Messrs. Damon G. Douglas, J. Douglas Ferguson, Charles P. Knott, George M. Korb, Alfred Z. Reed, Max M. Schwartz, H. R. Stephens, and to numerous other correspondents, many of whom went out of their way considerably to answer our inquiries on the subject.

(A paper presented to the Albany Numismatic Society)

No Faith in German Money

The Nazi-controlled press in Czechoslovakia started a new drive against the whispering propaganda which is sabotaging the new German order that the old Czechoslovakian bank notes of 1000 crowns issued in 1932 be withdrawn from circulation by March 15. The people refuse to surrender these bills. On the black market they have higher rate than the German marks. In Slovakia, people pay 1200 crowns for them, firmly believing that it will be better money than the German marks when Czechoslovakia will be reestablished.

—C. L. Wallace

On April 3 an AP news item states that President Roosevelt had signed a law under which any person manufacturing or selling slugs to be used to obtain free cigarettes, stamps, admissions or other articles or services from coin-operated machines henceforward will run the risk of a \$3,000 federal fine and a year's imprisonment.

"One of the Treasury statements that we want to dispute is that the average dollar bill lasts nine months."

—Illinois State Journal

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altered to 1760. The tail of the 6 is crowded into the exergual line in a manner so that one could only conclude that this was done as an afterthought. A logical explanation of this piece would be that the 1700 coin is a contemporary counterfeit; probably a direct copy of Nelson No. 9, which has a date that was placed too high in the exergue and with a little wear might appear as 1700. The counterfeiter probably realized his mistake after circulating a few of his 1700 coins and altered the date to read 1760. At least two examples of the 1700 coin and two examples with the date altered to 1760 are known to exist. The counterfeit pieces probably circulated in the Colonies with numerous other counterfeit halfpence and Bangleton tokens.

Ken Bressett

During the past few years interest in the "Colonial" field of numismatics has mounted to a degree of popularity not enjoyed by this series in many decades. Of the many new serious collectors of this series, a few are engaged in considerable research which has produced material sufficient to revise the authoritative books used in the past. In Massachusetts copper series alone at least ten new die varieties and combinations have been discovered.

One of the biggest problems facing the researchers in "Colonials" today is the absence of photographs and descriptions of these new discoveries. Such was the case three weeks ago when I came across an unusual Massachusetts cent. Within a few minutes I found that it was unlisted in both Crosby's "Early Coins of America" and Miller-Ryder's "The State Coinages of New England". This coin did not match any photographs that I have nor any written description that I was able to check, nor were any of my correspondents able to help me. Before labeling this a "new" discovery I had to locate owners of other recent discoveries and check this coin against theirs. It was during this search that I found that my coin had been discovered previously and that there were now four other specimens known, of which this is perhaps the second or third finest. All of this process took many days, several long drives to view other collections and a good number of long distance telephone calls.

In an attempt to make someone else's task a little easier, I am submitting to the

"Colonial Newsletter" for publication, a photograph and the following description of the Massachusetts Cent, 1788 to be known as Ryder 15 M.

C O M wide; MM close; the top of the bow rises to 3/4 the height of N; one ray of mullet (star) points just above the collar; the feather-end of the arrow under upright of E; arrowhead two lengths below tunic; the bowstring is close to, but does not touch the handgrip of the bow. The shaft of the arrow is slightly to the left of an imaginary bisecting line through the arrowhead. This coin possesses two outstanding characteristics not found on any other Massachusetts Cent of 1788 . . . the first is the fact that there are two folds of the tunic completely to the right of the Indian's left leg (observer's right) PLATE; and the second characteristic is a difference in the Indian's hair. On all specimens of 1788 Cents, the hair falls within the V collar on the shoulder, but on this obverse more than half of the hair is located to the right of the collar. See Plate.

A. R. Beaudreau

Of interest is a newly discovered Vermont reverse die dated 1788. It is combined with the VERMONT AUCTION, obverse which is shown by Ryder Nos. 14, 20, 21, 22, 23, 34 and 36. A description of this reverse follows: Legend INDE ET LIB. Distance between DE is greater than that between IN or ND in INDE. Branch hand points to right side of D. Branch short with a few distinct leaves, the upper left leaf very close to the bottom left corner of B. Distance between T of ET and L of LIB only slightly larger than spacing between other letters. B close to dateline, closer than on any other Vermont reverse. Dateline is double, the upper one being heavier. Datelines are very straight and parallel. Die break joins right part of upper dateline and edge. Date rather uniform, 8's tilt slightly to the right, 17 more widely spaced than the rest of the date. It appears to be connected at the top by a small break to the right, connecting lower dateline. The coin weighs 103 gr. and logically will be known as Ryder 37.

An advanced die state of the Vermont Ryder 20 (BB-16) reverse has been noted. The die is buckled in a roughly circular area between the neck, branch, left knee and top of shield giving a distinctly thicker

coin within this area. A fine die break or crease is present extending from the milling opposite the nose, curving through the center of the forehead and terminating at the pole just below the hand.

A. D. Hoch

Several months ago while attributing some Massachusetts cents, I fortunately came across one with an obverse 4 of 1787 and a reverse 1 of 1788.

Although there have been quite a few new discoveries in the last several years, eleven in all to my knowledge, I believe this one to represent something extra and major.

By extra, I mean that is the first piece in this series to have dies of two different years combined, whereas the varieties of Connecticut, New Jersey and Vermont enjoyed such combinations ever since they were collected by varieties. (by "dies of different years" I do not necessarily mean that they were "cut" or made in different years but that they are listed under this classification.)

Also, this combination sheds a great deal of light on the "arrangement of the dies". By deciphering it, the obverse 4 would be the last obverse die of 1787 and the reverse 1 would be the first reverse die of 1788. Therefore, the obverse 12 of 1788 would

be considered the first obverse die of that year since it is found in combination with the 1 reverse. Progress could also be made with the C, D, and J reverses of 1787 and the majority of the 1788 reverses and obverses.

As yet, I have come across two pieces of this combination: the discovery piece (no longer in my possession); and a specimen in the collection of the Massachusetts Historical Society, the latter being the better of the two.

Philip D. Greco
764 Broadway
Somerville 44, Mass.

AN UNKNOWN ALBANY CHURCH PENNY?

In 1790, the First Presbyterian Church of Albany proposed that coins be struck with the words "Church Penny" stamped on them. Supposedly, one thousand, in uniface style, were struck. These pieces are generally referred to as a "necessity coinage".

The one in question has the same legend but with a "D" added. As for what the D represents, I cannot say.

The piece shown is in the collection of the Massachusetts Historical Society.

Philip D. Greco

colonial Newsletter
vol 1, No. 1

This is a chart of Coins

in 1821 directory

by ~~Paxton~~ ~~St Louis~~ (No title on chart)

In contents of ~~directory~~ is
"Table of foreign ~~exchange~~ Coins x

Names of COINS	Weight		Curry of Va. K. etc.	Curry of Pa M etc.	FEDERAL VALUE
	dwt.	gr.	£ S. D.	£ S. D.	E. D. d c. m.
English Guinea,	5	6	1 8 0	1 15 0	0 4 6 6 7
French Guinea,	5	5	1 7 6	1 14 6	0 4 6 0 0
Johannes,	18	0	4 16 0	6 0 0	1 6 0 0 0
Half Johannes,	9	0	2 8 0	3 0 0	0 8 0 0 0
Mordore,	6	18	1 16 0	2 5 0	0 6 0 0 0
Doubloon,	16	21	4 8 0	5 12 6	1 4 9 3 3
Spanish Pistole,	4	6	1 2 0	1 8 0	0 3 7 7 3
French Pistole,	4	4	1 2 0	1 7 6	0 3 6 6 7
French Crown,	19	0	0 6 8	0 8 3	0 1 1 1 0
Spanish Dollar,	17	6	0 6 0	0 7 6	0 1 0 0 0
English Shilling,	3	18	0 1 4	0 1 8	0 0 2 2 2
Pistareen,	3	11	0 1 2	0 1 6	0 0 2 0 0

(End of chart)

Please note that
 d in dwt is lowercase
 D in pence is upper case
 D in dollars is upper case
 d in dime is lowercase

Also note lack of variation in value betw French and Spanish pistole under Virginia and under Penna.

Clear that the planchet ^{slipped within the dies during the striking due to} ~~was rotated separately by~~ the torque and/or the bounce of the direct ^{vertical} ~~impact~~ is a ^{vertical} ~~question~~.

When the direct impact was ^{very} ~~too~~ strong the rotation of the dies might have

increased the planchet twist whereas a weaker strike might have turned the lower die ^{smoothly}

without the planchet moving within the dies. ^{Most of} ~~All~~ of the Willows are different in the

position of parts of the design and letter elements ~~except~~ those few in which the die

image is complete on both sides of the coin ^{and properly placed} ~~and those~~ are weak strikes so far as ^{I am aware} ~~I know~~.

^{I see} There is no way for a rocker press or sway press to cause die-planchet rotation so ^{variable} ~~strange~~ consistently and inconsistent. ^{It might} ~~It would~~ have smeared the design of ~~as much as the planchet moved~~.

The striking impact and the torque pressure both had to be absorbed and that

combination certainly could make the striking pressure and bounce uneven. ^{and cause the} ~~planchet to move during striking~~.

It is clear there was no circular planchet cutter for the Willows. If a planchet

cutting screw press was available that would ^{constitute} ~~have required~~ at least one extra piece of

machinery and ^{such a} ~~the~~ planchet cutter would not ^{eliminate} ~~prevent~~ hand cutting after striking ^{because} ~~unless~~.

they had ^{no strong enough sheets} ~~a~~ roller press to make ^{strips} ~~strips~~ of uniform thickness. They were making sheets by

hand hammering and that would not produce uniform enough thickness to use a screw

press for planchet cutting and get planchets of ^{equal and proper} ~~proper~~ weight.

In addition to Cooper's material there is an illustration of a screw press which seems to have a rotating top die in "Essay on Coining" by Samuel Thompson, Dublin,

1783 which is a manuscript at ANS. It has illustrations of a planchet cutter screw press

and a ^{minting machine} ~~coining~~ screw press. (See those illustrations in Don Taxay, U.S. Mint and Coinage

(NY 1966). Also the screw press for coinage in Walter Breen's Encyclopedia of Early

U.S. Cents. 1793-1814 (New Hampshire, 2001).

Insert
A

Bowen Medals p. 48

Green-1169 and 1170 • 8 to 12 known

Just as they do today, in the 18th century churches depended upon the contributions of members to remain in operation. The problem for the treasurers of the First Presbyterian Church of Albany, New York, was the scarcity of small change in the area. Many parishioners had either no change at all or only worn-out coppers and counterfeit cents to drop into the Sunday offering plate. On January 4, 1790, the church elders hit on a novel solution:

Resolved: That one thousand coppers be stamped Church Penny, and placed with the treasurer to exchange with members of the congregation, at the rate of twelve for one shilling, in order to add respect to the weekly collections.⁵⁶

Two different variations were produced. The first has CHURCH in block letters with PENNY in script. The second variety bears the script letter D above CHURCH, perhaps because "d" (from *denarium*) is the abbreviation for *penny* in the English monetary system. Today, these pieces are exceedingly rare: fewer than a dozen exist of each variety. (The neighboring congregation at Troy issued paper scrip for the same purpose in 1792.)⁵⁷

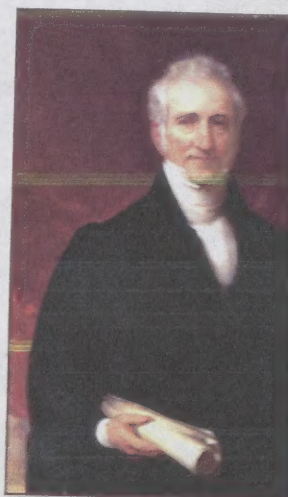
The First Presbyterian Church was organized in 1763 and erected its initial building in 1764. For more than 50 years it was the only place for Presbyterians to worship in the city. Alexander Hamilton was a member in 1782 while he read law at Albany. When Hamilton was killed by a bullet from the dueling pistol of political rival Aaron Burr in 1804, pastor Eliphalet Nott penned his eulogy, "On the Death of Hamilton." In this most celebrated sermon ever to come from the First Presbyterian pulpit, Nott condemned the practice of dueling:

I am called to attack, from this place, a crime, the very idea of which almost freezes one with horror—a crime, too, which exists among the polite and polished orders of society, and which is accompanied with every aggravation; committed with cool deliberation, and openly in the face of day!



Actual Size: 29.3 mm

This popular oration was published and circulated nationally. The church pennies of Albany were likely superseded by federal issues as soon as the Philadelphia Mint began coining pennies in 1793. By the end of the century, church councils in many parts of the country were striving to discourage the traditional practice of giving only a penny as offering. In the words of one writer, "giving only a penny as offering is an insult to God and to His church, and the people see the matter in this hard, true light, the better."



Eliphalet Nott was named pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Albany in 1798. A powerful orator, as well as a mathematician and inventor, he later became president of Union College in Schenectady.

ESTIMATED MARKET VALUES

EITHER OF THE TWO TYPES

EF-40 to AU-58:	\$17,500 to \$25,000
VF-20 to 35:	\$12,500 to \$17,500

COMMENTARY ON VALUE

Commentary: Grading is determined by the sharpness of the counterstamp.



Best of Buzz

David C. Harper

Brass or bronze? Got me again

I see on the U.S. Mint's list of products that are coming soon that the annual uncirculated coin set now has an Oct. 1 sales date. This contains an uncirculated example of every denomination and design struck at both the Denver and Philadelphia mints.

Sales of the uncirculated coin set were postponed when the Mint had a problem with toning on the new copper-alloy cents, or I should write the old copper alloy cents.

The law authorizing the four designs for the 2009 Lincoln cents also requires that they be minted for collector sets in the alloy that was used in 1909, which was 95 percent copper, three percent zinc and two percent tin.

It is perhaps not surprising that a problem of this kind would have occurred. The Mint is out of practice with such an alloy. Collectors know how prone to toning and spotting cents are. That is why they are usually the first coins looked at in sets to see how well preserved the overall uncirculated or proof set is.

In this blog I did not call the alloy bronze as I did in August. Alan Herbert, the Answerman, e-mailed me about that.

He wrote, "95 percent copper and both tin and zinc can go either way. If the majority is tin, then it's bronze, but if the zinc makes up more than 2.5 percent, then it's brass."

By that definition, the cents will be brass. This is a good example of why Alan is the Answerman who writes the weekly Coin Clinic question and answer column in Numismatic News.

So, will you be a buyer of the uncirculated coin set containing brass cents?

>> To read more from Dave Harper's blog go to numismaticnews.net/buzz



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(CA. 1790) ALBANY CHURCH PENNY. VF35 [PCGS].

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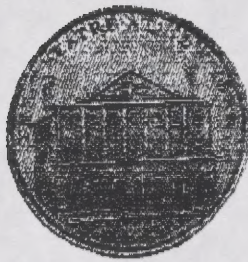
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THE THEATRE AT NEW YORK (Park Theater) New York, N.Y.



Rulau-E	Date	Metal	Size	F	VF	Unc
NY 892	(1797)	Copper	34mm	—	—	4500.
View of the theater's facade, THE THEATRE AT NEW YORK above, AMERICA in exergue. JACOBS in small letters below building. Rv: MAY COMMERCE FLOURISH. Edge lettered: I PROMISE TO PAY THE BEARER ON DEMAND ONE PENNY. (Rb: Wright 1130)						
NY 893	(1797)	Copper	34mm	—	Rare	—
Similar, plain edge.						



Normal Reverse

NY 894	(alt 1800)	Tin	34mm	—	—	Ex. Rare
Obverse as 892. Rv: Woman treading clothes with her bare feet in a tub. ANTIEN SCOTTISH WASHING — * HONI SOIT QUI MAL Y PENSE *. Plain edge. (Wright 1130A)						

This penny token, designed by Jacobs and struck in England by Skidmore, was issued by the Park Theater in New York. The theater was constructed beginning June 1, 1795, and completed in 1796 opposite City Hall Park. The proprietors petitioned for permission to erect a portico over the sidewalk, but it was not granted. About 12 specimens of NY 892 are known, that in the Gerritt collection of JHU being a proof.

The Theatre at New York/Antient (sic) Scottish Washing token is a muling made in England, utilizing the old die for the American penny. The reverse is the reverse of the Loch Leven penny. It was first published by Dr. B.P. Wright about 1900.

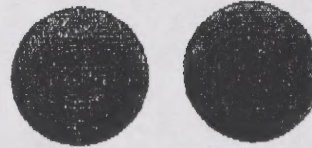
The Loch Leven penny was a 1797 product for Scotland, catalogued as D&H Kinross 1. The muling is not mentioned by Dalton and Hamer, however. Interestingly, the normal Loch Leven obverse (Loch Leven Castle, where Queen Mary was imprisoned in 1567), carries this signature: P.K. FECIT, indicating Peter Kempson of Birmingham made the original copper penny for Scotland.

Later there was a Park Theatre at 22nd Street and Broadway 1874 to 1882, with Henry E. Abbey as proprietor.

The New Park Theatre was erected 1883 at the northwest corner of 35th Street and Broadway. It opened Oct. 18, 1883. In 1885 this became known as Harrigan's Theatre and from 1895 until 1911 or later as Herald Square Theatre.



Rulau-E	Date	Metal	Size	F	VF	Unc
NY 41	1817	Copper	19mm	7.50	20.00	—
Obverse: ADMIT in horizontal oval. Rv: 1817 in similar oval. Denticulated rims. (Wright 4)						



Rulau-E	Date	Metal	Size	F	VF	Unc
NY 41A	1817	Copper	19mm	12.00	25.00	—
Obverse: PAID in horizontal oval. Rv: 1817 in similar oval. Denticulated rims.						

These two last admission checks to the old Park Theater in New York, opened in 1798. The theater was burned during construction in 1797, again May 25, 1820, and again in 1821. In February, 1824, a grand ball was given for the benefit of the Greeks, then in rebellion against Turkey, and \$2,000 was realized. The theater was destroyed by fire Dec. 16, 1846.

The ADMIT and PAID checks were the subject of a special examination by George and Melvin Fuld in the April, 1961, *The Numismatist*. Lyman Low in the *Getz* sale catalog (1898) attributed their period of use to the 1820-1824 period. We feel the period of use should cover the 1817-1824 period.



Rulau-E	Date	Metal	Size	G	VG	F
NY 42	1834	Silver	38mm	—	—	400.
Seymour Harris / Park Theatre / No. / N-Y / August 9th / 1834 engraved in script on a U.S. 1799 silver dollar. Rv: W.R. engraved on the dollar's reverse. Unique.						

This interesting item was in the Maurice M. Gould collection. It may yet provide some clues to the Park Theatre's later existence.

PEALE'S MUSEUM New York, N.Y.



Rulau-E	Date	Metal	Size	F	VF	Unc
NY 532	1825	Copper	34mm	50.00	100.	700.
Female bust left in Greek helmet and armor, PARTHENON / NEW YORK 1825. Rv: ADMIT / THE / BEARER in center. PEALE'S MUSEUM & GALLERY OF THE FINE ARTS. (Wright 5; Low 269)						
NY 533	1825	White Metal	34mm	1500.	—	Ex. Rare
Same as 532. (Low 270)						

Rubens Peale established his museum in 1825 in the Parthenon, at 252 Broadway opposite City Hall. The Long Room contained snakes, lizards and an Egyptian mummy. Another gallery contained paintings. Lectures and special appearances were made. In 1831 the museum was renovated and enlarged. Tickets for a whole family for one year were \$10; single admissions were 25 cents. The copper ADMIT THE BEARER checks may have been used for annual subscribers. These admission checks were apparently used 1825-1841. The museum was incorporated as the New York Museum in 1841, and in 1843 was sold to P.T. Barnum.

Rubens' father, Charles Wilson Peale, opened the Philadelphia Museum in 1784; he incorporated it in 1821. This museum issued two different types of ADMIT checks, which see. Rubens' brother, Franklin Peale, became chief coinier of the U.S. Mint in 1839.

p 30

Rulau
C. WARNER
Portsmouth, N.H.

3rd Edition
2nd Cat 1 US
Tokens 1700-1900

J.W. CORTELYOU
New Brunswick, N.J.



Rulau-E	Rarity	Date	Metal	Size	VG	F	VF	E
NJ 50	R9	(1805-22)	Copper	29mm	—	—	300.	—

J.W. CORTELYOU in relief within rect. depression ctsp on U.S. 1821 Large cent. (Brunk 9690; Rulau coll.)
Jacques W. Cortelyou (1781-1822) was active as a silversmith from about 1805 to his untimely death from typhus at age 41. He had married Rachael Van Harlingen.

SUSANNA HOLCOMB
New Jersey



Rulau-E	Rarity	Date	Metal	Size	VG	F	VF	E
NJ 100	R9	(1790's)	Copper	29mm	—	—	—	150

Seal engraved on planed-off reverse of New Jersey colonial cent.
All incuse lettering is retrograde. SUSANNA / (script monogram SH) / (branch) HOLCOMB (branch). Unique. (Kirtley Oct. 1, 1996 sale, lot W036; fetched \$154)

NEW JERSEY

JOHN STEVENS
Hoboken, N.J.

Rulau-E	Rarity	Date	Metal	Size	VG	F	VF	EF
NJ 1	R9	1829	Gilt/C	29mm	—	—	—	Unique

PAY / THE BEARER ON / DEMAND / ONE DOLLAR / AND CHARGE THE SAME / TO / JOHN STEVENS / HOBOKEN JUNE 20 1829 / TO JOHN V. BOSKERCK / FERRY MASTER / W & B. Rv: A wreath. ONE / DOLLAR / PAYABLE IN / SPECIE / WRIGHT & BALE. Plain edge. (ANS coll.; Kenney 260)



Rulau-E	Rarity	Date	Metal	Size	VG	F	VF	EF
NJ 1R	R9	1829	Silver*	29mm	—	—	—	200.

* Cast copy in silver. As the original, but cast with loop. (PCAC sale of Dec. 1986, lot 031)

The only known specimen of the original struck token, in gilt copper, is in the ANS museum collection. The token was prepared by Wright & Bale of New York for John Stevens but was never used. The sole specimen was sold by either Mrs. Bale or Mrs. Wright after the firm broke up, to A. Ramsay McCoy, and McCoy later sold it to J. N. T. Levick. It was sold in the 1888 Levick sale and again in the 1898 Betts sale, eventually finding its way to ANS.

It is not well known. It was written up in the *American Journal of Numismatics*, (2: 109) and again by Edgar H. Adams in 1912 in *The Numismatist*.

It is the earliest known \$1 denomination trade token struck in America, though the 1845 \$1 token of Johnson Himrod & Co. of Erie, Pa. is the first of dollar size (38mm).

The Hoboken Ferry car check of New York City (Atwood NY 630R), a 27mm brass token, was used much later in the 19th century. There is no connection.

E. & I. BRAGAW
Newark, N.J. &
Mobile, Ala.

Rulau-E	Rarity	Date	Metal	Size	VG	F	VF	EF
NJ 28	R7	(1829-33)	Copper	28mm	400.	1000.	—	3000.
NJ 29	R7	(1829-33)	Brass	28mm	400.	1000.	—	3000.
NJ 30	R7	(1829-33)	WM	28mm	400.	1000.	—	3000.

W&B NY. HAT MFGS. (Low 302)
As 28. (Low 303)
As 28. (Low 304)

NEW YORK

CHURCH PENNY
(Albany Church)
Albany, N.Y.



Rulau-E	Rarity	Date	Metal	Size	G	VG	F	VF
NY 1	R7	(1790)	Copper	28mm	1100.	3500.	7500.	11,000.

CHURCH / PENNY within scalloped recession. Rv: Blank. (RB; Brunk 7740) (Only 7 known)



Rulau-E	Rarity	Date	Metal	Size	VG	F	VF	EF
NY 1A	R7	(1790)	Copper	28mm	1100.	3000.	6500.	8000.

Similar, large D added above CHURCH. (RB; Brunk 7750) (Only 5 known)

The First Presbyterian Church of Albany authorized an issue of 1,000 uniface copper pennies on Jan. 4, 1790. These passed at 12 to the shilling and were used to stop contributions of worn and counterfeit coppers. The specimens known are of two types, but struck from the same die, which was later altered. They have the word CHURCH in capital letters and the word PENNY in script below, all within a circular panel of 24 scallops, and are struck on one side of the planchet only. The letter D in script appears on many of the specimens, while on others it is omitted. The significance of the D has been thought to be the initial of a town, or Latin for denarium, but, more likely, it may have stood for the Dutch Church of Albany which was close by. Since the method of exchange proved satisfactory for the Presbyterian Church, the die may have been borrowed, re-engraved with a D for the Dutch Church, and used as such. One strong factor in support of this is that in both 1790 and 1793, the Dutch Reformed Church of Schenectady issued paper money for exactly the same purpose as the tokens. Though two different Dutch Churches were involved, the

MOTT TOKEN

In 1789, William and John Mott of 240 Water Street, New York, issued what is generally believed to be the first of the tradesmans' tokens issued in America. The Motts were dealers in watches, clocks, jewelry, and gold and silver wares. The tokens were undoubtedly manufactured in England at a time when token manufacturing was reaching its highest peak of production. Plan- chets of various thicknesses were used for this series. The thin planchets have a very coarse engrailed edge. A large break occurs on the left top of the clock. Early specimens are found without this break.

Good Fine Ex. Fine



1. Thick planchet	\$9.00	\$20.00	\$60.00
2. Thin planchet, edge: engrailed	12.00	25.00	65.00
3. Thin planchet, edge: plain	15.00	30.00	70.00

ALBANY CHURCH PENNIES

On January 4, 1790, the trustees of the First Presbyterian Church in Albany, New York, resolved that one thousand coppers be stamped CHURCH PENNY and placed in the hands of the treasury for the purpose of exchanging with the congregation at the rate of twelve for one shilling in order to add respect to the weekly collections. The meaning of this resolution was to offset the receiving of underweight coppers passing at one-half to one-third of the intended value, and in place, receive coppers with an acceptable intrinsic value and exchange rate. The coppers circulating at that time were mostly State coinage, Bungtowns, and counterfeit British halfpence, and it is reasonable to assume that the Church usually received the poorest of these specimens.

The specimens known are of two varieties, but struck from the same die, which was later altered. They have the word CHURCH in capital letters and the word PENNY in script below, all within a circular sunken panel of twenty-four scallops, and are struck on one side of the planchet only. The letter D in script appears on many of the specimens, while on others it is omitted. The significance of the D was thought to be the initials of a town, or Latin for denarium, but, more likely, it may have stood for the Dutch Church which was close by. Had the method of exchange proved satisfactory for the Presbyterian Church, the die may have been borrowed, reengraved with a D for the Dutch Church, and used as such. One strong factor in support of this is the fact that on September 6, 1790, the Dutch Reformed Church of Schenectady issued paper money for exactly the same purpose as the coins. Though two different Dutch Churches were involved, the trend of the practice was evident.

	Good	Fine	Ex. Fine
1. Presbyterian Church Penny	\$100.00	\$150.00	\$200.00
2. Dutch Church Penny (D above CHURCH)	80.00	125.00	150.00

KENTUCKY TOKENS

This English tradesman token was probably originated in Lancaster, England about 1792. It was a minor commemorative of sorts as per the significance of the legend and design. Kentucky, the 15th State, was admitted to the Union in 1792. The English had the token struck for this occasion. The original thirteen colonies were placed upon the bottom of the pyramid of 15 states, with the initial K for Kentucky on top, and Vt for Vermont (14th State) next to the top. There is doubt that this coin was ever intended for circulation in America, but because of its association with the state coinage it is collected as such.

Several edge devices have been used in this series, but all the edges can be linked with the coinage of Lancashire. It can be assumed this was the general area of circulation. That many are found in worn condition indicates that they did circulate as currency in England.

Early American Coins, Robert A. Mader, 2nd edition 1945

T A B L E of the weight and value of CO I N S, as they pass in New-England, New-York, Pennsylvania, and South Carolina.

CO I N S.	wt. gr.	N. Engl.			N. York.			Pennsyl.			S Carolina.		
		£.	s.	p.	£.	s.	p.	£.	s.	p.	£.	s.	p.
Johannes, —	18 0	4	16	0	6 8 0	6	8	0	3	14	8		
Doubloon, —	17 0	4	10	8	5 16 0	5	12	0	3	10	0		
Four Pistole Piece, —	16 12	4	8	0	5 17 4	5	10	0	—	—			
Moidore, —	6 18	1	16	0	2 8 0	2	5	0	1	8	0		
English Guinea, —	5 6	1	8	0	1 17 4	1	15	0	1	1	9		
French Guinea, —	5 6	1	7	4	1 16 0	1	14	6	1	1	5		
Eng. or French Crown, —	—	0	6	8	0 8 9	0	8	4	0	5	0		
Dollars, —	—	0	6	0	0 8 0	0	7	6	0	4	8		

By a late Law of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, the Weight and Value of coined Gold is established as follows.

One Ounce of Gold, at Five Pounds Six Shillings and Eight Pence.

One Pennyweight of ditto, — Five Shillings and Four Pence,

One Grain of ditto, — Two Pence and Two Thirds of a Penny.

NOTE. 24 Grains make one Pennyweight; 20 Pennyweights, are one Ounce; 12 Ounces are one Pound of Gold or Silver.

TABLE of the weight and value of COINS, as they pass in New-England, New-York, Pennsylvania, and South-Carolina.

COINS.	wt. gr.	N. Engl.	N. York.	Pennsylv.	SCarolina.
		£. s. p.	£. s. p.	£. s. p.	£. s. p.
Johannes, —	18 0	4 16 0	6 8 0	6 0 0	3 14 8
Doubleon, —	17 0	4 10 8	5 16 0	5 12 0	3 10 0
Four Pistole Piece, —	16 12	4 8 0	5 17 4	5 10 0	— —
Moidore, —	6 18	1 16 6	2 8 0	2 5 0	1 8 0
English Guinea, —	5 6	1 8 0	1 17 4	1 15 0	1 1 9
French Guinea, —	5 6	1 7 4	1 16 0	1 14 6	1 1 5
Eng. or French Crown, —	—	0 6 8	0 8 9	0 8 4	0 5 0
Dollars, —	—	0 6 0	0 8 0	0 7 6	0 4 8

By a late Law of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, the Weight and Value of coined Gold is established as follows.

One Ounce of Gold, at Five Pounds Six Shillings and Eight Pence.

One Pennyweight of ditto, — Five Shillings and Four Pence,

One Grain of ditto, — Two Pence and Two Thirds of a Penny.

NOTE. 24 Grains make one Pennyweight; 20 Pennyweights, are one Ounce; 12 Ounces are one Pound of Gold or Silver.

Folsom
New-Pochet Almanac
Boston 1789

1794 Dr. Dr. Thomas (for Bank of U.S.) as passed by Act of Congress
Almon
Warester MA

A TABLE for receiving and paying the GOLD COINS of GREATBRIT-
AIN, and PORTUGAL, of their present Standard, according to the
present Act of Congress regulating Foreign Coins. Calculated for
the use of the Bank of the United States.

Grains.	Cents.	Grains.	Cents.	Grains.	Cents.	Grains.	Cents.
1	3	7	25	13	48	19	70
2	7	8	29	14	51	20	74
3	11	9	33	15	55	21	78
4	14	10	37	16	59	22	81
5	18	11	40	17	63	23	85
6	22	12	44	18	67	24	89

Dwt.	Dolls. Cts.	Dwt.	Dolls. Cts.	Dwt.	Dolls. Cts.	Dwt.	Dolls. Cts.	Dwt.	Dolls. Cts.
1	89	21	18 67	41	36 44	61	54 22	81	72 00
2	1 78	22	19 55	42	37 33	62	55 11	82	72 89
3	2 67	23	20 44	43	38 22	63	56 00	83	73 78
4	3 55	24	21 33	44	39 11	64	56 89	84	74 67
5	4 44	25	22 22	45	40 00	65	57 78	85	75 55
6	5 33	26	23 11	46	40 89	66	58 67	86	76 44
7	6 22	27	24 00	47	41 78	67	59 55	87	77 33
8	7 11	28	24 89	48	42 67	68	60 44	88	78 22
9	8 00	29	25 78	49	43 55	69	61 33	89	79 11
10	8 89	30	26 67	50	44 44	70	62 22	90	80 00
11	9 78	31	27 55	51	45 33	71	63 11	91	80 89
12	10 67	32	28 44	52	46 22	72	64 00	92	81 78
13	11 55	33	29 33	53	47 11	73	64 89	93	82 67
14	12 44	34	30 22	54	48 00	74	65 78	94	83 55
15	13 33	35	31 11	55	48 89	75	66 67	95	84 44
16	14 22	36	32 00	56	49 78	76	67 55	96	85 33
17	15 11	37	32 89	57	50 67	77	68 44	97	86 22
18	16 00	38	33 78	58	51 55	78	69 33	98	87 11
19	16 89	39	34 67	59	52 44	79	70 22	99	88 00
20	17 78	40	35 55	60	53 33	80	71 11	100	88 89

A TABLE for receiving and paying the GOLD COINS of FRANCE,
SPAIN, and the DOMINIONS of SPAIN, of their present Standard,
according to the present Act of Congress regulating Foreign Coins.
Calculated for the use of the Bank of the United States.

Grains.	Cents.	Grains.	Cents.	Grains.	Cents.	Grains.	Cents.
1	3	7	25	13	47	19	69
2	7	8	29	14	51	20	73
3	11	9	33	15	55	21	76
4	14	10	36	16	58	22	80
5	18	11	40	17	62	23	84
6	22	12	44	18	66	24	87

Dwt.	Dolls. Cts.	Dwt.	Dolls. Cts.	Dwt.	Dolls. Cts.	Dwt.	Dolls. Cts.	Dwt.	Dolls. Cts.
1	87	11	9 63	21	18 39	31	27 15	41	35 91
2	1 75	12	10 51	22	19 27	32	28 3	42	36 79
3	2 63	13	11 39	23	20 14	33	28 90	43	37 66
4	3 50	14	12 26	24	21 2	34	29 78	44	38 54
5	4 38	15	13 14	25	21 90	35	30 66	45	39 41
6	5 25	16	14 1	26	22 77	36	31 53	46	40 29
7	6 13	17	14 89	27	23 65	37	32 41	47	41 17
8	7 1	18	15 76	28	24 52	38	33 28	48	42 4
9	7 88	19	16 64	29	25 40	39	34 16	49	42 92
10	8 76	20	17 52	30	26 28	40	35 3	50	43 79

Capital D in Dwt.
Capital C in
Capital C in

The Early Coins of New York

From coppers and silver cobs to gold doubloons, the coinage of colonial New York was as varied and colorful as the people who produced it.

by John J. Kraljevich Jr.
LM 5023

PERHAPS MORE THAN any other city in America, New York has grown on a steady vector during its history, both economically and socially. At the beginning of the colonial era, New York hardly seemed to be on its way to becoming one of the world's chief economic centers. In 1700 the city numbered 5,000 souls, surpassed in population by Boston. But by the end of the century, New York was on the cusp of becoming the largest of all American cities, a title it would assume in the early 1800s.

Like its populace, New York's circulating medium was cosmopolitan. Coins of dozens of different nations were familiar to the city's banks and merchants, if not its everyday citizens. In the years after the American Revolution, the diverse (and often unsavory) character of the city's copper coinage caused concern, then panic—a situation that some recognized as a major opportunity for profit. The creativity and ambition of those entrepreneurs were manifested in an intriguing series of coppers, as close as New York ever came to its own coinage, and a very rare issue of gold coins, the first such emissions in the United States.

The Failure of Mercantilism

FIRST CONTROLLED BY the Dutch, then the English, New York was in many ways an ideal colonial city, an industrious town that vigorously supported the mother country, both politically and economically. The Dutch initially established New York as a major fur-trading port in direct competition with the French settlements in the St. Lawrence River valley and the English settlement at Massachusetts Bay.

The expulsion of the Dutch from North America in the 1660s allowed Great Britain to geographically unite the eastern seaboard from New England to Virginia. The English used New York as a major transporta-



The seal of New Netherland.

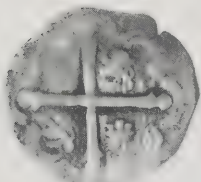


tion hub, and commerce quickly expanded in the years that followed as all manner of merchants hung out their shingles in this exciting and vibrant town.

According to the theory of mercantilism (enthusiastically embraced by the British Crown), colonies existed solely to expand a nation's economic presence. This included the gathering of gold and silver bullion for the empire's coffers, not for the use of its colonists as pocket change. However, colonial residents needed some circulating medium, as they had businesses to run, employees to pay, and products to trade, buy and sell both with neighbors, and distant suppliers and consumers.

The preeminent trade coins of the 17th and 18th centuries came from the great mines of Spanish America (Mexico southward to Chile, and Portuguese Brazil). These were the primary lubricant of commerce in

A 1635 Dutch map depicts the wilderness of New Netherland. The colony was a major fur-trading port.



Silver "cobs" like this Mexican real (c. 1621-65) recovered from the wreck of the H.M.S. *Feversham* made up much of the circulating coinage of New York in the 1700s.

AUTHOR'S COLLECTION

A PORTION OF these funds, as well as a wide assortment of coinage, was aboard the *Feversham* when it sank in stormy waters off the coast of Nova Scotia . . .

New York for most of its colonial history. Nominally, the goal of all commerce was the enrichment of the British Empire, but New Yorkers also traded with French Canada, the Netherlands and its colonial possessions, and other British colonies, from New England to the Caribbean. Those who profited most from the extensive trade originating in New York were the city's enterprising citizens, many of whom were natural capitalists.

Students of the early numismatic history of New York are aided in their quest by an unusual time capsule: the salvaged wreck of the H.M.S. *Feversham*. Salvaged in the mid-1980s, the ship's contents offered a unique glimpse of the composition of New Yorkers' pocketbooks in the early 18th century.

The ship set sail from New York for Quebec in September 1711, laden with food and supplies for English troops in Canada. To purchase provisions, the ship's purser received almost £600 sterling from an office of the British Treasury in New York. A portion of these funds, as well as a wide assortment of coinage, was aboard the *Feversham* when it sank in stormy waters off the coast of Nova Scotia on October 7, 1711.


A great number of the recovered coins hit the auction block in 1989. Of those sold, more than three-quarters were from the Spanish mints of Latin America, mostly silver "cobs" from Mexico, Peru and what today is Bolivia. These coins were crude, misshapen lumps of silver that New Yorkers (and other British colonists in North America) valued primarily by weight.

Dutch coins made up a small but important part of the treasure. Indeed, Dutch currency was significant enough that in 1709 the colony of New York issued paper money denominated in Dutch "lyon dollars" (so-named for the rampant lion pictured on its face) instead of Spanish dollars or British pounds.

While small quantities of English and French coins also were recovered from the *Feversham*, most of the remaining specimens came from nearby Massachusetts, evidence of the vital trade between Boston and New York in the late 17th and early 18th centuries.



Brooklyn, New York, in the 1800s.



COINS		Weights	Value	Silver Coins		Weights	Value
	oz.	d.	gr.		oz.	d.	gr.
Guinea	0.5	9	10.10	Eng Crown	0.19	8 1/2	2.10
Half D.	2	16 1/2	5.5	Half Ditto	9	16 1/2	1.5
Maidore	6	22	13.10	Dollar	17	12	2.5
Half D.	3	11	6.15	Half Ditto	8	18	1.2.6
Fulloon or Pistole Piece	17	8	33.	Quarter D.	4	9	11.3
Half D.	8	16	16.10				
Pistole	4	8	8.5				
Half D.	2	4	4.2.6				
Double Jeanes or 1/2 m. Hart. Piece	18	10	36				
Single Jeanes or 3/4 m. Hart. Piece	9	5	18				
Half D.	4	14 1/2	9.				
Quarter D.	2	7 1/4	4.10				

ENGRAVED Printed & Sold by NATHURD.

Many different types of coins circulated in the American colonies, necessitating the use of exchange tables, such as the one pictured above.

These silver coins were denominated in British shillings and pence; most were of the Pine Tree type (1667-82), though issues struck as early as 1652 also were aboard. (Many of the coins had been cut into pieces to facilitate the making of change.)

The most plentiful low-denomination coins were “coppers,” a catch-all term for any copper coin roughly the size of a British halfpenny. They were not legal tender, and each North American colony was permitted to adopt whatever valuation of coppers it pleased. According to author Eric P. Newman, in 1750 one shilling equaled 15 coppers in Philadelphia, 18 in Boston and 12 in New York. Because the base-metal coins were relatively more valuable in New York than anywhere else, the colony found itself home to the most motley assemblage of copper coins in North America.

Although they were the primary form of small change, coppers were not safeguarded by the same careful valuations and assurances against counterfeiting in the British Empire, leaving them susceptible to devaluation or worse. By all accounts, counterfeit halfpence made up a large proportion of the copper coins in circulation. By 1753, the spurious issues had become such a problem that the New York legislature passed a law “to prevent the importing or passing [of] counterfeits of British



This gold, 6,400-reis coin of Brazil was “regulated” by John Burger, who added a plug of gold and his stamp to certify that the coin was authentic and up to standards of the day.

ANTHONY TERRANOVA

THE MOST FAMOUS “regulator” was Ephraim Brasher, a talented goldsmith, patriot and one of the city’s best-known citizens.

.....

halfpence and farthings” which “are now passing in this colony, to the great damage and loss of the inhabitants.”

Independence and Opportunity

BRITISH FORCES HELD New York City for most of the American Revolution, during which time mercantilism was practiced even more strictly. Coinage became quite scarce, and precious-metal issues were hoarded. When British forces evacuated the city in November 1783, they took their spending power with them, and the city experienced a severe economic downturn. What little bullion remained in New York and elsewhere in the nascent United States was used to purchase necessary goods abroad, without the benefit of the once-thriving trade between the North American mainland and the British islands of the Caribbean. This obstruction in natural trade routes, together with the constant devaluation of overabundant and ultimately unredeemable paper money, made economic expansion difficult.

Despite such problems, New York continued to grow as those loyal to the American cause came back after the British relinquished control. According to author Gary Trudgen, “In early 1784, the population was around 12,000. By the middle of 1786, the population had doubled.”

To assist merchants who returned to the city and attempted to restore its economic health, the New York Chamber of Commerce established standards for the weights and finenesses of the gold coins currently circulating. These standards helped assure that the hard currency merchants accepted as payment would not prove a liability because they were either underweight or counterfeit.

One such individual, John Burger (an apprentice to silversmith Myer Myers), did his part to ensure the success of the endeavor. According to an article by William Swoger, published in the June 1, 1992, edition of *Coin World*, the *New York Packet* of January 1, 1784, included an advertisement from Burger noting that “among the services . . . he could provide his customers was that of ‘regulating’ all gold coin.” A script letter “B” counterstamped on a coin served as his personal guarantee that the piece met the Chamber’s standards. To those coins that fell below the prescribed weight, Burger added a plug of gold before stamping his mark.

The most famous “regulator” was Ephraim Brasher, a talented goldsmith, patriot and one of the city’s best-known citizens. (Even his neighbor George Washington purchased his wrought-silver products.) Swoger notes that Brasher also worked as the official regulator of the Bank of



In 1786-87, New York goldsmith Ephraim Brasher produced gold “doubloons” equivalent to \$15. Only two examples are known of the “Lima style” (top).

BOWERS AND MERENA GALLERIES

New York, which opened in June 1784. That month, the bank advertised rates at which it would accept certain gold coins; the standards were identical to those put forth by the Chamber of Commerce.

Though documentation of a relationship between Brasher and the bank is scant, Swoger posits that the significant number of English, Spanish and Portuguese gold coins showing Brasher's "EB" punchmark were specimens he deemed up to standard in accordance with the established guidelines. Several gold coins are known with both the Brasher and Burger counterstamps. It is likely that Burger regulated the coins first, and Brasher reconfirmed their quality after the bank opened.

Many believe Brasher took his regulating one step further when he produced gold coins in 1785 or 1786 (with the assistance and backing of the Bank of New York) bearing his name as a sign of quality. The first of these issues was the so-called "Lima style" doubloon, which imitated the familiar Spanish Colonial 8 escudos struck in Peru at the Lima mint. The pieces included his counterstamp and BRASHER NY. The familiar design undoubtedly improved the coin's chances of survival, though it is not known how many pieces actually were used in commerce. Only two specimens are known today, making this among the rarest and most desirable United States coins.

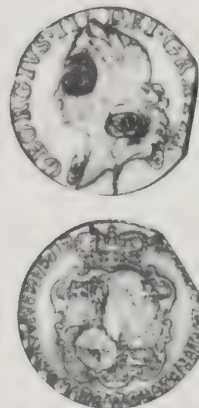
Brasher's next product—another gold doubloon—also would become one of the most famous and valuable of all United States coins. The obverse design echoes that of the seal of the Bank of New York and the arms of the State of New York, both of which depict a sunrise over a mountainous horizon along with the word EXCELSIOR.

Swoger has described these and other doubloons struck by Brasher as having a face value of \$15, based on the weight of known specimens and the standards set in 1784 by the New York Chamber of Commerce. Doubloons were required to weigh 408 grains (although such pieces originally were specified to be 417 grains). Of the nine known Brasher doubloons of both types, seven weigh between 406 and 408 grains, while the other two weigh about 411 grains. One known "half doubloon," struck with the same dies but on a smaller, thinner planchet, weighs 204 grains. Although not produced under government authority, Brasher's gold coinage may fairly be defined as the first struck to a standard defined by United States dollars.

Cuprous Competition

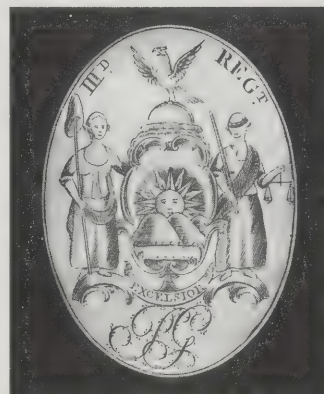
BY THE TERMS of the Articles of Confederation (1781), each state was entitled to coin its own money. Many took advantage of this provision, including Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York and Vermont (which was not a state, but hoped to become one).

On February 2, 1787, James Atlee became the first to apply to the State of New York for a contract to manufacture copper coins. He had been involved with his father, Samuel, in a Manhattan brewery on the banks of



This guinea of George II shows the markings of New York silversmiths John Burger and Ephraim Brasher, assuring that the coin is pure gold and of proper weight.

BOWERS AND MERENA GALLERIES



The seal of New York State.

FROM NEW YORK STATE SILVERSMITHS

THE FINAL PETITIONER was Captain Thomas Machin, who served as an engineer during the American Revolution. . . . [H]e came prepared with samples of his work.

the Hudson. According to Gary Trudgen, writing in *The Colonial Newsletter* in 1992, "Several circumstances infer that Samuel and James F. Atlee had set up an unauthorized mint at the brewery, sometime in 1786." Their operation may have counterfeited Connecticut coppers and British halfpence, varieties of which tentatively have been attributed to their handiwork. Also credited to James Atlee is a 1786-dated copper that features a stylized bust of George Washington and the Latin legend NEO-EBORACENSIS (a reference to New York). Specimens are rare and avidly sought today.

Ephraim Brasher, seeing the success of copper coins in nearby states, as well as the sizable profits to be made by producing them, also sought a New York coinage contract. While the details of Brasher's particular offer are unknown, it is documented that he petitioned the New York State Assembly on February 11, the same day another talented New York craftsman named John Bailey made known his desire to coin New York coppers. (Bailey, who created the sword George Washington carried throughout the Revolution, later was engaged by the official coiners of the State of New Jersey as a subcontractor. It is not known if Brasher and Bailey worked together or just happened to make proposals on the same day.)

Less than a week later, New York silversmiths William Coley and Daniel Van Voorhis appeared before the State Assembly. Formerly in business with Albion Cox (who then produced coppers for New Jersey and later served as a United States Mint assayer), Coley and Van Voorhis were partners in a corporation formed to strike coppers for the Republic of Vermont. (A month later, with no hope of being awarded the New York contract, Coley moved to Vermont to assist with minting there.)

The final petitioner was Captain Thomas Machin, who served as an engineer during the American Revolution. His proposal was heard on March 3, and many think he came prepared with samples of his work. A number of extremely rare issues, all dated 1787 and featuring designs related to New York State, have been attributed to Machin (although the creators of the dies are not known): the George Clinton copper, featuring a visage of Machin's friend, who happened to be governor of New York at the time; the Standing Indian copper, bearing on the reverse either an eagle perched on a globe or the New York State arms; and the Excelsior copper, featuring the New York arms design paired with a Heraldic Eagle reverse.

The Clinton coppers, of which perhaps a dozen are extant, are known



Thomas Machin is thought to have struck these coppers in 1787. The two varieties of Standing Indian coins (bottom) are represented by a handful of specimens.

BOWERS AND MERENA GALLERIES



Old Newburgh toll road.

to have been struck on *Immunis Columbia* coppers (c. 1788-89), which means that at least some were produced at a later date. The two varieties of Standing Indian coppers likely are represented by fewer than 20 specimens. (Machin later combined the obverse with a third reverse die that he had used earlier to produce imitation halfpence.) The *Excelsior* coppers are very rare, but perhaps too numerous to have been intended only as samples for the Assembly.

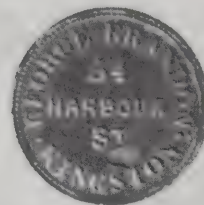
In any case, in mid April 1787 the New York Assembly decided not to offer *anyone* a contract to produce coppers in the name of the state, preferring to regulate the coins that already circulated and render illegal any that weighed under a third of an ounce avoirdupois. This eliminated many of the Connecticut coppers, badly worn English and Irish coppers (some a century old), and poorly executed counterfeits (although the number of bogus coins remained substantial, as enforcement of penalties was nearly impossible).

continued on page 835



Thomas Machin and his partners produced imitations of British copper halfpence at Machin's mill site on Orange Pond in Newburgh, New York, in 1787-88.

BOWERS AND MERENA GALLERIES



IN MEMORIAM
RAYMOND A. BRANDON

JUNE 26, 1944 — MAY 20, 2002

*While I think on thee, dear friend,
All losses are restored and sorrows end.*

Shakespeare, Sonnet XXX

Kenneth V. Eckhardt, ANA 63285
Ayelsbury, U.K.

Edward H. Roehrs, ANA 52758
Arecibo, P.R.

Issac Rudman, ANA LM 1262
Santo Domingo, R.D.



The Early Coins of New York

continued from page 771

Private Enterprise

REGARDLESS OF THE Assembly's decision, many of the petitioners continued their careers as coiners, creating some of the most collectable coins associated with New York. Among these are the Nova Eborac issue of 1787, whose obverse legend alludes to its New York origin and whose design closely imitates that of Connecticut coppers and the ubiquitous British halfpence. Its manufacture is attributed to John Bailey, and some studies have suggested that Ephraim Brasher was his partner for this issue.

Four major varieties of Nova Eborac coppers exist. The "small head" and "large head" varieties are quite rare. The other two varieties differ in the orientation of the seated figure on the reverse and are each relatively common as far as coins of this period go. While not official New York issues, they often are sought by collectors of colonial copper.

On April 18, 1787—the day the New York Assembly decided not to produce a state coinage—Machin organized a new partnership that included Samuel and James Atlee; lawyer James Giles; and merchant James Grier and his partner, David Brooks (a New York Assemblyman who served on the committee that heard the coinage contract petitions). Machin and James Atlee oversaw day-to-day business from Machin's mill site on Orange Pond in Newburgh, New York. Ulster and Dutchess Counties were well known as dens of counterfeiting throughout the 18th century, and Machin's operation was no different. "Machin's Mills" produced numerous varieties of counterfeit British halfpence,



Resembling a British halfpence and the copper coinage of Connecticut, the Nova Eborac issue of 1787 carries a New York reference.

many bearing dates their antecedents never did, such as 1776, 1778, 1787 and 1788.

Machin's Mills' most important collaboration was with a firm headed by Reuben Harmon, who had an exclusive contract to mint coins for Vermont. The two corporations merged on June 7, 1787, and they quickly set about meeting the requirements of the Vermont contract. At a bargain rate, they purchased quantities of Nova Constellatio—contemporary copper pieces that enjoyed a wide circulation in the United States after 1785—to use as planchets for the Vermont coinage.

Machin's Mills would acquire coining equipment from various sources over the next year, never missing an opportunity to expand the scope of its capitalistic enterprise. The tiny mint in Newburgh struck Vermont coinage legally, British halfpence extralegally, Connecticut coppers and perhaps other state coppers illegally, and a series of bizarre mulings that no issuing authority could claim.

Because of Machin's Mills' extrav-

agant production and the constant flow of low-class copper into the port of New York, the quality of the coinage circulating in the city increasingly declined. Coppers still had no legal-tender status, so the rate at which they were accepted was up to the merchants, some of whom really did not want any more than they already had on hand. World trade depended on gold and silver coin; coppers would not do.

According to author Philip Mossman, "The result was that the poor and those merchants holding a large number of the 'fluctuating medium' bore the brunt of the devaluation." Whereas coppers once passed at 14 to a shilling (slightly less than a cent apiece), merchants now insisted on 20 to 60 coppers to a shilling. The exchange rate spiraled out of control in what became known as the Coppers Panic of 1789, a brief catastrophe that began in New York and spread to Philadelphia. It led to a nearly complete cessation of trade that summer, during which many merchants and banks resorted to issuing tiny fractional notes to ameliorate the shortage of small change.

By January 1790, the situation had improved, but not significantly. The First Presbyterian Church of Albany, New York, overstruck coppers with the legend "Church Penny" to "add respect to the weekly collection." A second variety is known with a large "D" above the inscription. In total, perhaps two dozen specimens survive.

Despite its size and importance, New York City never was home to a United States Mint, although West Point, once Thomas Machin's stomping grounds, began to strike coins and commemoratives for the U.S. government in 1974. New York State's proud numismatic legacy

includes many fascinating issues beyond the scope of this article: early tokens such as those issued by the Park Theatre or merchants Talbot, Allum & Lee; the fascinating issue struck in France to mark the establishment of Castorland (now Carthage, New York); scores of token and medal issues from the Civil War era; hundreds of varieties of bank notes; and much more. For collectors of New York numismatic items, the possibilities are almost endless.

Acknowledgments

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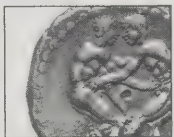
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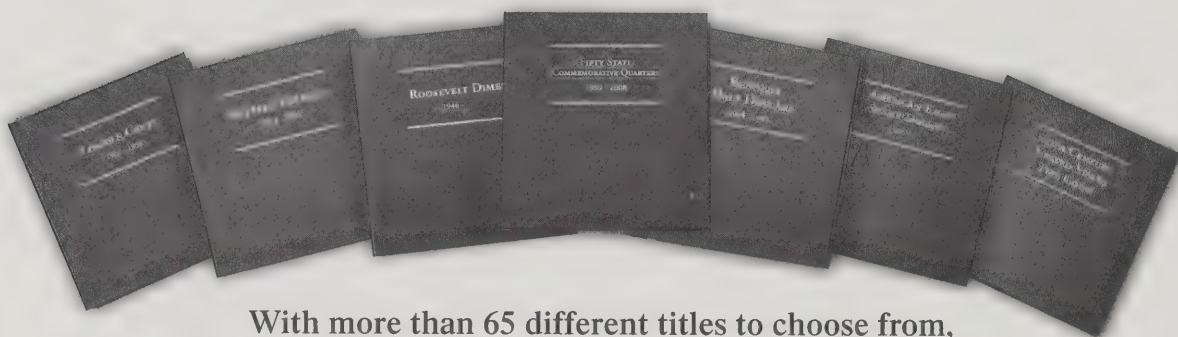
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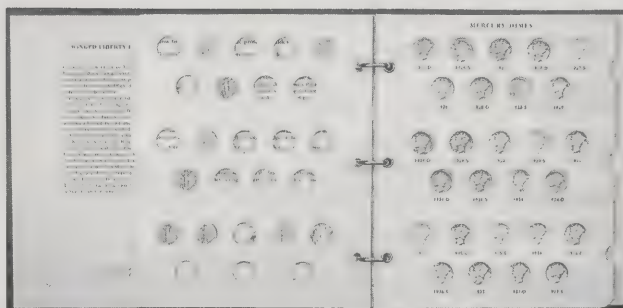


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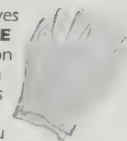


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A TABLE

For receiving and paying the Gold Coins of GREAT BRITAIN, and PORTUGAL, of their present Standard, according to the Act of Congress, regulating Foreign Coins. Passed the 9th February, 1793.

A TABLE

For receiving and paying the Gold Coins of France, Spain, and the Dominions of Spain, of their present Standard, according to the Act of Congress, regulating Foreign Coins. Passed the 9th Feb. 1793.

dwt.	dols.	cts.	grains.	cts.	dwt.	dols.	cts.	grains.	cts.
1		89	1	3	1		87	1	3
2	1	78	2	7	2	1	75	2	7
3	2	67	3	11	3	2	63	3	11
4	3	55	4	14	4	3	50	4	14
5	4	44	5	18	5	4	38	5	18
6	5	33	6	22	6	5	25	6	22
7	6	22	7	25	7	6	13	7	25
8	7	11	8	29	8	7	1	8	29
9	8	00	9	33	9	7	88	9	33
10	8	89	10	37	10	8	76	10	36
11	9	78	11	40	11	9	63	11	40
12	10	67	12	44	12	10	51	12	44
13	11	55	13	48	13	11	39	13	47
14	12	44	14	51	14	12	26	14	5
15	13	33	15	55	15	13	14	15	55
16	14	22	16	59	16	14	1	16	58
17	15	11	17	63	17	14	89	17	62
18	16	00	18	67	18	5	76	18	66
19	16	89	19	70	19	16	64	19	69
20	17	78	20	74	20	17	52	20	73
21	18	67	21	78	21	18	39	21	76
22	19	55	22	81	22	19	27	22	80
23	20	44	23	85	23	20	14	23	84
24	21	33	24	89	24	21	2	24	87

A FATHER chid his son for rising late in the morning ; and as an instance of advantage resulting from early rising, mentioned a certain man, who by being up be-times, found a purse of gold. To which the son replied, " He who left it was up before him."

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For the YEAR of our LORD
1789.

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is, at par, in

Connecticut, Rhode-Island, New-Hampshire,
Vermont, and Virginia £100—Dollar 6s.

In Pennsylvania, Maryland, Delaware and
Jersey, £125—Dollar 7s. 6d.

In New-York, and N. Carolina, £133 6s 8d.
—Dollar 8s.

In S. Carolina and Georgia, £77 15 6 $\frac{2}{3}$ d—
Dollar 4s. 8d.

In Nova-Scotia, Newfoundland, and Canada,
£83 6s 8d.—Dollar 5s.

In Barbadoes, £111 2s 2 $\frac{2}{3}$ d.—Dollar 6s. 8d.

In Jamaica, £104 3s. 4d.—Dollar 6s. 3d.

In the English Windward Islands £137 10s.
—Dollar 8s 3d.

In the French Islands, 2641 $\frac{2}{3}$ Livres.—
Livre 8d. $\frac{66}{125}$.

In the Dutch Islands, 458 $\frac{1}{3}$ Pieces of Eight.
—Piece of Eight 4s. 7d $\frac{11}{15}$.

In the Danish Islands, 520 $\frac{5}{8}$ Pieces of Eight.
—Piece of Eight 3s. 2d $\frac{2}{3}$.

In the Spanish Islands 333 $\frac{1}{3}$ Pieces of Eight.
—Piece of Eight 6s.

In England £75.—Dollar 4s 6d.

In Ireland £81 5s.—Dollar 4s 10d $\frac{1}{2}$.

In Spain 424 $\frac{8}{13}$ Piaſtres of Exchange.—
Piaſtre of Exchange 4s 9d $\frac{11}{15}$.

In Portugal 266 Mill 666 $\frac{1}{1500}$ Reas.—Mill
Rea 7s 6d.

In Holland 845 $\frac{1}{16}$ Florins.—Florin 2s. 4d $\frac{2}{5}$.

Folsom

New Poet's Almanac

Boston 1789



JOEL MUNSELL'S PRINTING OFFICE. Joel Munsell published numerous Albany history items at his printing office. Much of Albany's early history is known thanks to him. Munsell died on January 15, 1880. From 1795 to 1830, the building was known as Gable Hall. It was the home of Gov. John Jay. It was torn down in 1902 to make room for the National Commercial Bank and Trust.





NORTH PEARL STREET, WEST SIDE, c. 1890. This c. 1890 view shows Monroe Street, with the Dutch Reformed Church to the right. The church is still standing, but the rest of the area is now a parking lot.



THE DUTCH REFORMED CHURCH. The oldest building in Albany is the Dutch Reformed Church, located on North Pearl Street between Monroe and Orange Streets. Built in 1798, the church was designed by Philip Hooker and is his earliest known work. The first church was erected in 1634 on Broadway and State Street.

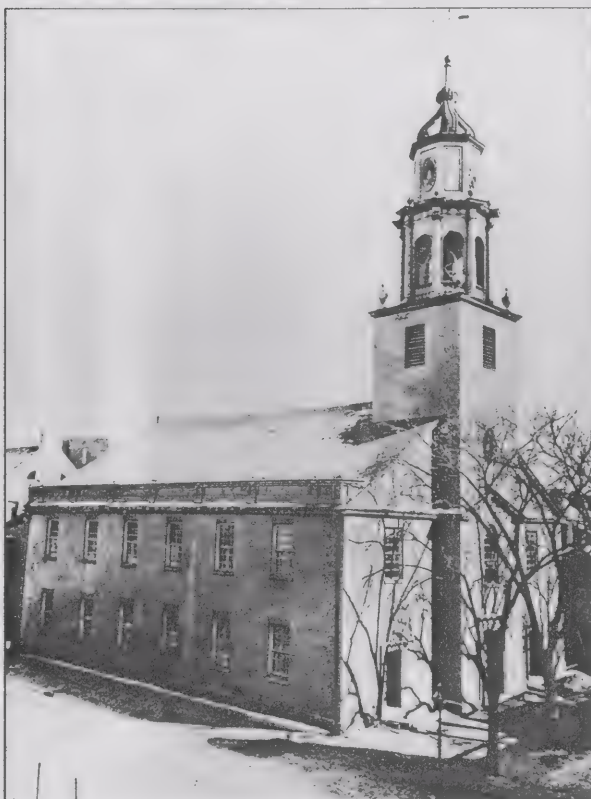
First Presbyterian Church at Newark * December 16, 1790

Church Money issued by
the First Presbyterian
Church at Newark and
signed by Elias Boudinot,
its president. He later be-
came the third Director of
the United States Mint.
Printed by S. Kollock of
Elizabeth Town.

1d (undated)	2d (undated)
3d	4d
6d	9d



HARMANUS BLEECKER HALL. Harmanus Bleeker Hall was built by the YMCA in 1888 at 161 Washington Avenue, the site of the current Albany Public Library. Harmanus Bleeker was an ambassador to the Netherlands.



THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH. The First Presbyterian Church was constructed in 1794 at the corner of Beaver and South Pearl Streets. This was the church's second building.

House of Representatives of the United States.

Wednesday, July 29.

The house went into committee on the bill for regulating the coasting trade, and prescribing the manner of registering, ensueing and clearing vessels. Some progress was made in the bill, when the committee rose, and adjourned for leave to sit again.

Mr. Friscomb requested leave to bring in a bill to suspend the operation of the impost and tonnage acts. But his motion was negatived. Adjourned.

Thursday, July 30.

The committee appointed to examine the enrolled bill to regulate the collection of duties on tonnage, and on goods, &c. reported that it was found correct, and laid the same upon the table. The speaker then signed the bill.

Mr. Livermore moved a resolution that each member should be furnished at the public expense with two newspapers of this city, such as he should choose, and no more. This was laid on the table.

The house then resolved itself into a committee on the bill to regulate the registering of vessels and the coasting trade.

Mr. Boulton in the chair.

The committee having gone through the bill and reported for day amendments. The house then proceeded to the consideration of this report, but not having time to go through the same, adjourned.

Friday, July 31.

The house went through the report of the committee of the whole on the bill regulating the coasting trade, &c.—The bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

Mr. Selwick from the committee appointed for the purpose, reported a bill concerning the papers of the late Congress, great level, &c.—and for the preservation, attestation, and publication of the acts of Congress, which was read a first time.

Mr. Huntington, from the committee to whom was referred the petition of Nathaniel Gorham, made a report, which was read and laid on the table.

Mr. Scott, pursuant to order, reported a bill for establishing a Land-Office, which was read a first time.

Mr. White, from the committee appointed to examine into the title of certain grants of land in the State of Virginia, intended for the continental troops of the line for that State, made report.

Mr. Benson moved for leave to bring in a bill to vest the appointment of the collector, naval-officers, and surveyors in the five points of the United States in the President alone.

The question on this motion was superseded by a motion for an adjournment till Monday, which was carried.

The objections, says a correspondent in a Philadelphia paper, to the wages of the members of Congress are not well founded. They are no greater than they were during the late war. Let it be remembered that they only sit one half or one third of the year,—that most of them relinquish all private and professional pursuits, and that many of them will carry their families with them to the place where Congress resides.

The hon. Abel Foster is elected a representative of the United States, for the district of New-Hampshire; his choice completes the federal list.

The President and Supreme Executive Council of Pennsylvania have issued their proclamation, informing of, and enjoining adherence to, a late act of the Congress of the United States, imposing an oath of affirmation, agreeable to the sixth article of the Constitution.

A Boston paper of July 27, says, That on Tuesday morning 14th inst. Capt. Joseph Selman, with his crew, consisting of two men and three lads, returned to Marblehead from a fishing voyage; after having experienced one of the most remarkable preservations which the Deity is pleased to vouchsafe to man kind, to excite their attention, and convince them of the constant exercise of his Providence over them.

Capt. Selman had completed his prey, and was on his return home. On Wednesday the 28th inst. at 12 o'clock P. M. being about 25 leagues distant from Cape Ann, his vessel was struck by a large whale, which, just before, had been seen several times above the water, approaching her. Instantly the vessel was found to be filling fast with water; and, as the only means of safety, the people took to the boat, which was but about twelve feet in length; having first cast into it a small bag of bread, a couple of buckets, two oars, two paddles, and two little casks, in one of which were a few quarts of water, and in the other a small quantity of spirit. They saw the vessel founder in nine minutes after being struck by the whale, and in four after they had left her. With the utmost care they now endeavored to manage the boat; on which, under Providence, they placed all their dependence for the preservation of their lives. In this situation they continued for two hours, the wind blowing very fresh from

S. S. W. and the gloom of night beginning to spread over them, when they shipped a sea which filled the boat, and cut off the little hope of life they had hitherto indulged. Capt. Selman endeavored to encourage the men, and animate their spirits; and with their buckets they soon cleared the boat—the hope of life again returned; but the like transition, from hope to despondency, and from despondency to hope, they soon again experienced, having about an hour after shipped another sea, and cleared the boat. Though the boat had hitherto been kept from sinking, yet their bread, by washing out, was now lost—the salt water had mixed with their spirit—wax, in addition to this, they afterwards lost one of their oars and one of their paddles. In these circumstances they remained till Friday afternoon, when at five o'clock they came to an island to the eastward of Frenchman's bay, where they found neither inhabitants, provisions or water. They quitted this for the main, expecting from the (most they discovered to rise from thence, to find inhabitants; but on their arrival they found the main to be far back in the country, and the shore to be equally destitute of inhabitants and provision as the island. They continued in the woods till morning, when they again entered their boat, and directed their course to the westward. About noon they discovered a sail in Frenchman's bay, which proved to be a vessel belonging to New-York, loading with lumber, and had then come out to catch some fish. On board this vessel they were cordially received, and supplied with what was necessary for their present refreshment. After a few days they took passage in a boat bound to Boston; but having small supplies, they touched first at Mount Desert, and then at the mouth of Penobscot river, where their great joy they found Capt. Knox Martin, in a sloop from Marblehead, with Mr. Lane, a gentleman from London, who kindly commiserated their case, and generously supplied them with provisions amply sufficient for their subsistence till they should reach their homes.

A circumstance relative to one of the lads who was with Capt. Selman, is not to be omitted. On the second night after their deliverance, he appeared to be wholly insensible; his limbs were stiff, and he was concluded by all to be dead. Capt. Selman supposing it might contribute to their safety to lighten the boat, thought it best to throw the lad overboard, and took him up for this purpose; but feeling a reluctance, he relinquished the attempt, and finally concluded to let him remain in the boat. After this he felt to ruffling the lad—he soon thought he discovered life in him, and continued the operation. The lad quickly recovered his senses, and the use of his limbs, and in a short time was as well as the rest.

Those three persons, after being threatened with death by the natives, by the danger of hunger, and by fatigue, were, by the kind sympathies of Providence, upheld in life, and restored to their families and connections.

A London paper of May 16, says, "A new journal, under the title of Les Etats Genezeux, was published in France on the 1st inst. and was to have been continued three times a week for the space of three months at least. The subscription was three half crowns, and the number of subscribers, who all paid before hand, was upwards of 2000. Le Jay, the publisher, employed a scurrilous, and unflattering writer, for which reason it was superseded by order of the king's council on Friday inst. As a specimen of the second number, the following paragraph, in the manner, was obliged to wait from eight o'clock till the morning till after eleven, in the narrow, dark lobby of the episcopal hall, built for the States General, which really offered a view of a group of merchants on 'Change' rather than that of the entrance of a grand Assembly."

A letter from a gentleman in the Genesee country, to his friend in Connecticut.

My dear Sir,

I am at last safely arrived from my western ramble, and agreeably to my promise, now set down to give you some account of the country I have visited. Reports that are circulated respecting new countries, I am sensible are often deriving of little credit, being evidently the offspring of a heated imagination or interested motives; neither of which you will, I presume, impute to me, on the present occasion; and if you will meet me on the ground next summer, as you have given me the encouragement, you will find every thing in my description verified, if not exceeded.

The lands lately purchased by Messrs. Gotham, Phelps, and Co. are the same country, they were formerly called the Seneca, but now better known by the name of the Genesee Country, from a most beautiful river that rises near the feet of the Alleghany mountains, and after running a northerly course discharges itself into Lake Ontario. The tract already purchased of the Natives is bounded as follows.—East, by a line drawn from the eighty second mile stone on the Pennsylvania line, and running due north to the great Lake Ontario, which lake is its Northern boundary.—West, by Genesee river, and South by Pennsylvania. The country is approached by different ways; boats of two tons burden may go from Schenectady to Canadagoque, a lake in the centre of the purchase. In this

route there are only two carrying places, neither of which exceed a mile. Canoes are always in readiness, and boats are conveyed over with dispatch. From Schenectady to Canadagoque by water, does not exceed two hundred miles, and by land not more than one hundred and seventy. From Philadelphia the distance is not more than one hundred and fifty miles to the southern part of the purchase. Good roads from both places will be completed by the first of June next.

Within the limits of the purchase there are a great number of Indian settlements entirely deserted, the natives, which are covered with English grass, &c. There are other very large tracts of open or cleared lands that yield a luxuriant growth of wild grass, called Indian Beal, which makes good forage in winter. The great quantities of opened or cleared land present infinite advantages to the first settlers—they are so obvious that it is needless to point them out. A judicious farmer, in my hearing, observed, that if he and his family were dropped on that country, fencing and building excepted, he could produce a support with as much ease as on the best cultivated farm in New-England.

Before the late war there were large orchards both of apples and peaches scattered over the country, and though they received a severe check at that period, many have survived; and after losing their tops above the girdling, by a vigorous effort of vegetation, have shot forth new branches, which were the last season covered with fruit; besides, a great number of young trees have sprung up near the roots of the old ones; so that with care, good orchards may be obtained in every part of the purchase.

For sixty miles south of Lake Ontario, the country is as level as might be wished, but further to the southward it is more uneven, though good in quality. The streams are numerous—I have frequently traced them for miles, and met with five mill-races not far from each other; and, from the information of the surveyors and others, am ready to think the same conveniences may be enjoyed in every town. The waters are clear and grateful to the taste.

The country affords all the variety of timber common to the eastern States; white oak and hickory prevail most on the upland—in some places beech and maple. There is also plenty of the sugar-maple, black-walnut, cherry-tree, and even mulberry mixes itself with the other trees of the wood.

The streams are filled with fish; those peculiar to fresh water grow to a much larger size than with you—in the fall and spring seasons great quantities of salmon are caught; this excellent species of fish, after having navigated the great Lake Ontario, make their way up the streams of the little lake in the interior parts of the country, where they are taken with ease.

Nature seems to have been peculiarly indulgent to this part of the world; its fertile lands, that spread themselves at considerable distances from the rivers, are generally entirely clear of timber, and to say the least, are exceeded by none in Connecticut. In common with other new countries it enjoys the wild flock and poultry of the woods—prodigious flocks of geese and ducks visit the lakes, and are scattered over the ponds. The fish springs are a most wonderful provision for the supply of that very necessary article; I have seen them myself, and attended the process of boiling the liquid, and am fully of opinion that the inhabitants will be supplied at as cheap a rate as the inhabitants of Connecticut. The seasons are mild, the climate temperate; neither winter nor summer are attended with the same excesses as with you. On the whole, it was the unanimous opinion of every judicious person whom I conversed with at the westward, that the country is the most fertile, pleasant, and inviting they ever saw.

The company formed under the first purchase, sent on surveyors the last season, who nearly accomplished the survey of the whole tract. The concurrence of people that came to view the land last fall was truly astonishing; and so highly were they pleased with the country, that every township which has been thoroughly explored, sold before the agents left the ground, except such as were reserved for the company's use, and it is supposed nearly three thousand persons will go on the land the ensuing season.

One circumstance I had like to forget—I have already observed that Canadagoque lake is nearly central in the purchase—it is a most beautiful piece of water; the land on the north side gradually rises for a considerable distance; here was a large Indian settlement before the late war. This delightful spot is destined for the capital; it is already laid out in small lots, and the legislature of New-York have incorporated the purchase into a county, and established the courts at this place. When we add to the foregoing circumstances, the provision that is made for the better establishment of a seminary of learning, it is probable that Canadagoque will in a few years vie with the most considerable inland towns on this continent.

Such as effect a new settlement must expect to meet with difficulties; such however as go to Genesee may remember for their encouragement, that the very first year's labor will be liberally rewarded by a plentiful supply of the necessities of life. An industrious youth may in a few years, acquire property sufficient to make him respectable; and such as have little property with families in old

settlements, may here render themselves independent, and lay a foundation for making old age comfortable. Those who are burdened with taxes may rest assured that they will here find ease; the legislature of New-York having guaranteed to the settlers an exemption from State and continental tax for fifteen years. With respect to the inconvenience of all others the most dreadful to a new settler, I mean danger from the Indians, little is to be feared; the fixations are almost wasted away—so that at present there are not so many Indians this side Niagara, as there is in Connecticut thirty years ago. They sold their lands freely, in the presence of the British functionaries, who acknowledged the fairness of the contract; and so great is the confidence of the natives in the purchasers, that two of the principal chiefs have committed their sons to the care of the Hon. Oliver Phelps, Esq. and are now actually at school at Suffield, preparing for college; the Indians themselves are impatient to see families moving on, and treat with truly brotherly kindness such as come among them.

PIRACY.

[From the Cumberland Gazette of July 24, printed at Portland, Maine.]

On Monday last, information was received at the naval-office in this town, that a sloop of about 30 tons had, on the Friday preceding, anchored at Cape-Cure, in Cape-Elizabeth—that it was commanded by one John Jackson, who said his vessel was from the coast of Guinea, and had been out about four months. The naval-officer repaired immediately to the Cape, with an intention to seize the sloop for breach of the revenue laws; but he could find no one who would assist him in boarding her. On the contrary, the inhabitants assisted in getting the sloop under way, and then piloted her out to sea.—On the return of the naval-officer, a number of gentlemen belonging to this town voluntarily agreed to pursue her. A small sloop and schooner were immediately equipped—they set sail on Monday evening, and fortunately on Wednesday the schooner, commanded by Capt. John Baker, fell in with, and took possession of her; and in the evening of the same day brought her into this port. On examination it was found that the captain differed very much from his men, and his men from each other, in the accounts of the voyage, the property, &c. But from the confession of one Hans Hasdon, it appears, that the sloop sailed from London, about a year ago last March—that she was commanded and chiefly owned by one John Cannon, and that they proceeded to the coast of Guinea, and purchased the cargo of ivory, pepper, &c. which they have now on board—that a plan was then concerted to kill Capt. Cannon, which was executed last December, and the above-mentioned Jackson was appointed captain in his stead—and that in March they proceeded on their voyage to America.

ARRIVALS AT NEW-YORK.

Ship Oliver Branch, from Dublin.
Lord Middleton, Havre, St. Louis.
Brig Mary Ann, Tinker, Turk Island.
Nelly, Buchanan, Morita Bras.
Ship Elven Blackburne, Cape-Francois.
Delight, Cochran, Caracas.
Aurora, Caboni, Rhode Island.
Hancock, Brown, do.
Ramslar, Peterjen, do.
Lady Green, Godfrey, do.
Mary Ann, Szymar, Turk Island.
Hannah, Lord, Cape-Francois.
The brig William, Capt. John Harrison, was to sail from Dublin the next day after the Oliver Branch, for New-York.

POUGHKEEPSIE, August 1.

Friday last was executed at this place, FRANCIS USS, pursuant to sentence passed on him at the late Supreme Court held for Dutchess county, for breaking open and robbing the shop of Mr. Andrew Billings, of this town. When under the gallows, he confessed the fact for which he had been condemned—and also of several other robberies.

NEW-YORK, July 30.

Yesterday being the day appointed by his Excellency the Commander in Chief for the annual inspection and review of General Milcom's brigade.—They were accordingly reviewed and inspected by Col. Fish, the Adjutant-General, on the ground belonging to Col. Rutgers, when the whole were exercised and manoeuvred in his presence.—The next appearance of the Legion under the command of Col. Wyckoff, their correct execution of duty, together with the orderly and respectable appearance and conduct of the battalion troops, induce him to bestow many handsome commendations, and to promise to mention their behaviour, in very favorable terms in his report to the commander in chief.

BOSTON, July 24.

Yesterday the oath prescribed by Congress was administered to the judges of the court of common pleas (now sitting in this town) and to the attorneys and other officers of the court, by the hon. Judge Sullivan.

PHILADELPHIA, July 29.
In Common Council, Philadelphia, July 23, 1879.

This Board, having observed that the Common Council of the city of New-York, taking into consideration the great inconveniences which have arisen to the inhabitants of that city by the depreciation of the present

A full and complete SETT of excellent NEW SAW-MILL IRONS, (price only £. 15. in Cash) for sale by JOSHUA BLOORE, No. 7, State-street, Albany; who has likewise for sale, a quantity of INDIAN CORN, very cheap, either wholesale or retail. Aug. 6.

circulating paper coin, have, by a publication of the said infant, recommended to the inhabitants to receive and pay the said coin at the rate of 48 coppers for one shilling; and finding that great quantities thereof are pouring into this city from several quarters, think it their duty to advertise their fellow citizens of the danger of being imposed upon in this respect. This species of money, so necessary in the small transactions in markets and shops, is in various degrees of fineness and of different weights—hence the Board find it impossible to give certain information of their real value; but they have some reason to believe that the copper contained in a pound weight avoirdupois of the best of them, is not equal in value to one shilling of Pennsylvania money, and that the far greater part of them are mixed with base metal, and of which it will require from sixty to eighty to weigh a pound—After this notice it must be left to the citizens to estimate for themselves at what rate they should be received and paid.

Extract from the minutes,
Anthony Morris, clerk of the Corporation.

We hear, that the General Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church meet this day, and that there will be Divine Service and a Sermon on the occasion, at Christ Church, this forenoon.

GEORGIA.

WE the undersigned, Delegates from the People, in Convention met, do declare that the following articles shall form the Constitution for the Government of this state, and, by virtue of the powers in us vested for that purpose, do hereby ratify and confirm the same.

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA.

ARTICLE I.

Section. I. THE Legislative Power shall be vested in two separate and distinct Branches, to wit a Senate and House of Representatives, to be styled, "The General Assembly."

Sec. II. The Senate shall be elected on the first Monday in October in every third year, until such day of election be altered by law, and shall be composed of one member from each county, chosen by the electors thereof, and shall continue for the term of three years.

Sec. III. No person shall be a member of the Senate who shall not have attained to the age of twenty-eight years, and who shall not have been nine years an inhabitant of the United States, and three years a citizen of this state, and shall be an inhabitant of that county for which he shall be elected, and have resided therein six months immediately preceding his election, and shall be possessed of his own right of two hundred and fifty acres of land, or some property to the amount of two hundred and fifty pounds.

Sec. IV. The Senate shall elect, by ballot, a President out of their own body.

Sec. V. The Senate shall have solely the power to try all impeachments.

Sec. VI. The election of members for the House of Representatives shall be annual, on the first Monday in October, until such day of election be altered by law, and shall be composed of members from each county in the following proportions: Camden, two; Glynn, two; Liberty, four; Canham, five; Effingham, two; Burke, four; Richmond, four; Wilkes, five; Washington, two; Green, two; and Franklin, two.

Sec. VII. No person shall be a member of the House of Representatives who shall not have attained to the age of twenty-one years, and have been seven years a citizen of the United States, and shall be an inhabitant of this state, and shall be an inhabitant of that county for which he shall be elected, and have resided therein three months immediately preceding his election, and shall be possessed in his own right of two hundred acres of land, or other property to the amount of one hundred and fifty pounds.

Sec. VIII. The House of Representatives shall choose their Speaker and other officers.

Sec. IX. They shall have solely the power to impeach all persons who have been or may be in office.

Sec. X. No person holding a military commission or office of profit under this or the United States, or either of them, (except officers of the peace and officers of the Militia) shall be allowed to take his seat as a member of either branch of the General Assembly: Nor shall any Senator or Representative be elected to any office of profit which he created during his appointment.

Sec. XI. The meeting of the General Assembly shall be annual, on the first Monday in November, until such day of meeting be altered by law.

Sec. XII. One third of the members of each branch shall have power to proceed to adjourn; but a smaller number may adjourn day to day, and compel the attendance of their members in such manner as each branch may prescribe.

Sec. XIII. Each House shall be judges of elections, returns, and qualifications, of its members; with powers to expel or to punish for disorderly behavior.

Sec. XIV. No Senator or Representative shall be arrested during his attendance on the General Assembly, or for a reason in going thereon or returning, except it be for treason, felony, or breach of the peace: Nor shall any member

be liable to answer for any thing spoken or done in either House, in any Court or place elsewhere.

Sec. XV. The members of the Senate and House of Representatives shall take the following oath or affirmations: "I, A. B. do solemnly swear, (or affirm, as the case may be) that I have not obtained my election by bribery or any unlawful means; and that I will give my vote, on all questions that may come before me, as a Senator, or Representative, in such manner as in my judgment will best promote the good of this state; and that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same, and, to the utmost of my power, observe, support and defend the Constitution thereof."

Sec. XVI. The General Assembly shall have power to make all laws and ordinances which they shall deem necessary and proper for the good of the state, which shall not be repugnant to this Constitution.

Sec. XVII. They shall have power to alter the boundaries of the present counties and to lay off new ones, as well out of the counties already laid off as out of the other territory belonging to the state. When a new county or counties shall be laid off, out of any of the present county or counties, such new county or counties shall have their representation apportioned out of the number of the Representatives of the county or counties out of which it or they shall be laid off; and when any new county shall be laid off in the vacant territory belonging to the state, such county shall have a number of representatives, not exceeding three, to be regulated and determined by the General Assembly. And no money shall be drawn out of the Treasury, or from the public funds of this state, except by appropriations made by law.

Sec. XVIII. No Clergyman of any denomination shall be a member of the General Assembly.

ARTICLE II.

Sec. I. The Executive Power shall be vested in a Governor, who shall hold his office during the term of two years, and shall be elected in the following manner:

Sec. II. The House of Representatives shall, on the second day of their making a House, in the first, and in every second year thereafter, vote by ballot for three persons; and shall make a list containing the names of the persons voted for, and of the number of votes for each person, which list the Speaker shall sign in the presence of the House, and deliver it in person to the Senate; and the Senate shall, on the same day, proceed by ballot to elect one of the three persons having the highest number of votes, and the person having a majority of the votes of the Senators present shall be the Governor.

Sec. III. No person shall be eligible to the office of Governor who shall not have been a citizen of the United States twelve years, and an inhabitant of this state six years, and who hath not attained to the age of thirty years, and who does not possess five hundred acres of land in his own right within this state, and other species of property to the amount of one thousand pounds sterling.

Sec. IV. In case of death, resignation, or disability of the Governor, the President of the Senate shall exercise the Executive Powers of Government until such disability be removed, or until the next meeting of the General Assembly.

Sec. V. The Governor shall, at stated times, receive for his service a compensation, which shall neither be increased nor diminished during the period for which he shall be elected, neither shall he receive, within that period, any other emolument from any foreign State, or any of them, or from any foreign power. Before he enters on the execution of his office, he shall take the following oath or affirmations: "I do solemnly swear, (or affirm, as the case may be) that I will faithfully execute the office of Governor of the State of Georgia, and will to the best of my abilities preserve, protect and defend the said State, and cause justice to be executed with mercy therein, according to the constitution and laws of the same."

Sec. VI. He shall be Commander in Chief in and over the State of Georgia, and of the militia thereof.

Sec. VII. He shall have power to grant reprieves for offences against the state, except in cases of impeachment, and to grant pardons in all cases, after conviction, except for treason or murder, in which cases he may respite the execution, and make a report thereof to the next General Assembly, by whom a pardon may be granted.

Sec. VIII. He shall issue writs of election to fill up all vacancies that happen in the Senate or House of Representatives, and shall have power to convene the General Assembly on extraordinary occasions, and shall give them from time to time information of the state of the Republic, and recommend to their consideration such measures as he may deem necessary and expedient.

Sec. IX. In case of disagreement between the Senate and House of Representatives, with respect to the time to which the General Assembly shall adjourn, he may adjourn them to such time as he may think proper.

Sec. X. He shall have the revision of all bills passed by both Houses before the same shall become laws; but two thirds of both Houses may pass a law notwithstanding his dissent, and, if any bill should not be returned by the Governor within five days after it hath been presented to him, the same shall be a law, unless the General Assembly, by their

adjournment, shall prevent its return.

Sec. XI. The Great Seal of the State shall be deposited in the office of the Secretary, and it shall not be affixed to any instrument of writings, without it be by order of the Governor, or General Assembly, and the General Assembly may direct the Great Seal to be altered.

ARTICLE III.

Sec. I. A Supreme Court shall be held in each county twice in every year, in which shall be tried, and brought to final decision, all causes civil and criminal, except such as may be subject to a Federal Court, and such as may by law be referred to inferior jurisdiction.

Sec. II. The General Assembly shall point out the modes of correcting errors and appeals, which shall extend to faras to empower the Judges to direct a new trial by jury within the county where the action originated, and which shall be final.

Sec. III. Courts Marshal shall be held as heretofore, subject to such regulations as the General Assembly may by law direct.

Sec. IV. All causes shall be tried in the county where the defendant resides, except in cases of real estate, which shall be tried in the county where such estate lies, and in criminal cases, which shall be tried in the county where the crime shall be committed.

Sec. V. The Judges of the Supreme Court and Circuit and General Sessions shall have a competent salary established by law, which shall not be increased nor diminished during their continuance in office, and shall hold their commission during the term of three years.

ARTICLE IV.

Sec. I. The electors of the members of both branches of the General Assembly shall be citizens and inhabitants of this state, and shall have attained to the age of twenty-one years, and have been paid tax for the year preceding the election, and shall have resided six months within the county.

Sec. II. All elections shall be by ballot, and the House of Representatives, in all appointments of state officers, shall vote for twelve persons, and a list of the three persons having the highest number of votes shall be signed by the Speaker, and sent to the Senate, which shall from such list determine, by a majority of their votes, the officer elected, except militia officers and the Secretaries of the Governor, who shall be appointed by the Governor alone, under such regulations and restrictions as the General Assembly may prescribe. The General Assembly may vest the appointment of inferior officers in the Governor, the courts of justice, or in such other manner as they may by law establish.

Sec. III. Freedom of the press and trial by jury shall remain inviolate.

Sec. IV. All persons shall be entitled to the benefit of the writ *Habeas Corpus*.

Sec. V. All persons shall have the free exercise of religion, without being obliged to contribute to the support of any religious profession but their own.

Sec. VI. Estates shall not be entailed, and when a person dies intestate, leaving a wife and children, the wife shall have a child's share, or her dower, as her option; if there be no wife, the estate shall be equally divided among the children and their legal representatives of the first degree. The distribution of all other intestate estates may be regulated by law.

Sec. VII. At the general election for members of Assembly, in the year one thousand seven hundred and ninety-four, the electors in each county shall elect three persons to represent them in a Convention, for the purpose of taking into consideration the alterations necessary to be made in this constitution, who shall meet at such time and place as the General Assembly may appoint; and if two thirds of the whole number shall meet and concur, they shall proceed to agree on such alterations and amendments as they may think proper. Provided, that after two thirds shall have concurred to proceed to alterations and amendments, a majority shall determine on the particulars of such alterations and amendments.

Sec. VIII. This constitution shall take effect, and be in full force, on the first Monday in October next, after the adoption of the same; and the Executive shall be authorized to alter the time for the sitting of the Superior Courts, so that the same may not interfere with the annual elections in the respective counties, or the meeting of the first General Assembly.

Done at Augusta, in Convention, the sixth day of May, in the year of our Lord, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-nine, and in the year of the sovereignty and independence of the United States, the thirteenth.

WILLIAM GIBBONS, President,
And Delegate from Chatham.

Afs Emanuel, John H. Scheuber, Chatham.
Benjamin Lums, John Green, N. Brown.
Effingham.

David Langsue, Hugh Lwison, William Little, Burke.

Abraham Muthall, W. F. Booker, Leonard Marbury, Richmond.

John Talbot, Jeremiah Walker, Wilkes.

Lauchlin McIntosh, Liberty.

Alexander B. Iles, Glynn.

Jared Irwin, John Watts, J. John Williams, Washington.

Middleton Wood, Franklin.
Joseph Christman, Henry Kirt Green.
Attest. D. LONGFLEET, Sec'y.

Dr. Van Zilver

RESPECTFULLY informs the citizens of Albany, and the public in general, that he is now provided with medicinals and may be consulted at Mr. James Bloodgood's, No. 36, Market-Street, Albany, August 6, 1789. 3c

To be sold,

On reasonable Terms,
THAT valuable FARM, formerly owned by James Folger, deceased, situate near the Meeting-house, in the flourishing settlement of CURRY-BUSH, 8 miles from the town of Schenectady, is excellent for mowing and pasturing, as well as for all kinds of grain—It contains 230 acres—100 of which is under good improvement, and has standing on it a good Dwelling House, an excellent large new Barn, Stable and out-houses. Possession will be given on the first day of May next, at which time one hundred and fifty pounds of the consideration money must be paid, and for the payment of the residue such time will be given as the purchaser may require. For farther particulars, apply to the Printers of the Albany Gazette, or at the house of JAMES FULLER, Court Street, Albany.
August 5, 1789. T3m2a

WHEREAS Joshua Wheeler,

Timothy Shipman, and William Roads (then all of Saratoga, in the county of Albany, yeomen) did, on the sixteenth day of June, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy-two, to secure the payment of four hundred and eighty pounds, execute and convey to the subscriber, by an indenture of release by way of mortgage, ALL those TWO certain Lots, Pieces, or Parcels of LAND, among others, situate, lying and being at Saratoga aforesaid, on the east side of Hudson's river, being part or parcel of a larger lot of land, known by lot number thirty-six of the second or grand division of the Saratoga patent—and the said Two Lots, Pieces or Parcels of Land, are known and distinguished by lot number *thirty and thirteen*; and are bounded as follows, that is to say, lot number three, begins at the northeast corner of lot number two, and runs thence north, eighty-eight degrees east, forty-four chains and seventy-five links—then south, eight degrees west, thirty-four chains and twenty-five links—then south, eighty-eight degrees and thirty minutes west, forty-four chains and seventy-five links—and then north, eight degrees east, thirty-four chains to the place of beginning—and contains one hundred and forty-five acres of land:—And lot number thirteen begins at the southeast corner of lot number twelve, and runs thence north, eighty-nine degrees east, eighty-eight chains—then north, eight degrees east, thirty-seven chains—then south, eighty-eight degrees and thirty minutes west, eighty-eight chains—and then south, eight degrees west, thirty-six chains, to the place of beginning—and contains three hundred and twenty-three acres of land: Together with the buildings, mills, runs and streams of water, to the aforesaid lots, pieces or parcels of land belonging, or in any wise appertaining; (having the right and privilege of the heirs of Henry Bleecker, equities, deceased, and the right, and privilege of John N. Bleecker and Gerrit Van Buren, their heirs and assigns, of and into Three Acres of Land, the Creek which runs through the same, and the Two Falls in the said Creek, lying and being in the said lot number three—And Whereas, the sum of four hundred and thirty pounds four shillings and six pence, is yet behind and unpaid, Notice is therefore hereby given, That in pursuance of a law in that case made and provided, the above bounded and described Lots, Pieces or Parcels of Land, (having as before reserved) will be sold at the dwelling house of Ezekiel Ensign, innkeeper (situate on the west side of Hudson's river, in the county of Albany and town of Stillwater, at PUBLIC VENTURE OR AUCTION, to the highest bidder, on WEDNESDAY, the tenth day of February, which will be in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety, at eleven o'clock in the forenoon of that day; at which time the conditions or sale will be made known, and good and sufficient deeds in the law, executed to the purchaser or purchasers by the subscriber.

JACOB BLEECKER, JUN.
Albany, August 5, 1789. T6m2a
The Ten Pound, Excise and Militia Acts, to be sold at Webster's Printing-Office, Satter-street.

WEST-INDIA RUM.

A few HOGSHEADS to be SOLD very
CHEAP for CASH, by

S. HILL,

No. 43, MARKET-STREET.

July 30th.

TEAS.

BEST Hyson, Breakfast, Souchong and
Bohea TEAS, fresh from CANTON,
And NANKEENS, from 5 1-2
to 7 1-4 yards, of the best quality.

Also—5 by 8, 7 by 9, and 8 by 10
WINDOW GLASS,
to be sold very CHEAP, by

Thomas Barry.

Who has likewise for sale, a few Barrels of
EXCELLENT PORK.

Albany, July 2, 1789.

tf. 72

Thomas Spencer,

No. 3, COURT-STREET, opposite the
Dutch Church, Albany,

HAS FOR SALE,

A new assortment of DRY GOODS, suitable
for the present season—Tin and Hard-
ware—with a supply of Liquors and Groceries;
best New-England Cheese—a constant
supply of NEW RUM, of the best quality,
from the distillery in Albany. Also, Providence
STONE LIME, by the hoghead;
and, A second-hand CHAISE, with Har-
nais complete.

Likewise,

A few barrels of BLUBBER OIL.

Webster's Spelling Books,
to be sold by said Spencer, at his Shop, sign of
the Bible, Market-street, by the gross,
hundred, dozen or single, at the New-York
price.

Waggon, Carts,

Whebarrows and Ploughs,
made in the best manner, may be had of the
subscriber, on giving a short notice.

For the Convenience of Travellers.

The subscriber has so arranged his blacksmith
Business, that any person can have horse com-
pletely shod, at his Shop in G. cen street, in
Half an Hour, at any time of the day.

Gentlemen from the Country and City,
will find much advantage in having their
Blacksmith Work, of whatever kind it may
be, performed at his Shop—so he keeps a con-
stant supply of the best iron and steel—em-
ploys a number of experienced workmen, and
gives strict attendance himself; they may,
therefore, depend on being served in the best
manner—on the shortest notice, and on as
low terms as at any other Shop in this City.

The Public's very humble Servant,
JOHN MURPHY, Green-street, Albany.

All Persons having demands on the Estate of

Mr. William Sobel,

late of the City of Albany, deceased, are de-
sired immediately to exhibit the same; like-
wise, those indebted to said estate, are called
on to make speedy settlement, with

EZEKIEL TIFFANY, Administrator.

Persons having any Articles, the prop-
erty of said estate, are requested to return
them without delay.

Albany, Jan. 29, 1789.

145

All Persons indebted to the estate of

Samuel Schulthorp,

Baker, deceased, are desired to make imme-
diate payment to the subscribers, adminis-
trators and all who have any just demands
against the said estate, are desired to produce
their accounts for settlement.

WILLIAM SHEPHERD,
JOSHUA BLOORE,

Albany, February 24, 1789.

146

Mill-Irons,

Made at FORBES' Iron-Works, CANAAN,
FOR SALE,

By Cornelius Glen,

At the Store of Glen and Bleeker, No. 28,
Market-street, Albany.

A few Copies of the IMPOST LAW,
for the accommodation of Merchants and
others, printed on fine paper, may be had of
the Pri

Land-Office.

A LAND-OFFICE is opened, by the
subscriber, in NEWTON, north of N.
Galloway, in Balltown district, for the con-
venience and accommodation of all who wish
to PURCHASE, SELL or LEASE LANDS,
HOUSES, MILLS, &c. &c. He therefore
requests all those who have Lands, &c. &c.
which they wish to dispose of, to intrust him
with the same, and he assures them that secrecy
and the strictest regard to their interest
shall ever be observed by him, and the small
cost favors thankfully acknowledged.

FOR SALE, at the LAND OFFICE,
A convenient PLACE, in Kin-
derhook, for erecting Iron-Works, with a
never failing stream, and a dam made by na-
ture, having falls of above 30 feet. The Bed
of Ore is not more than a mile distant, and
the road to it is level, that a span of hor-
ses can with ease draw a ton of the ore. It is
about 3 miles from Hudson's river, and ten
from the city of Hudson.

On the premises are a good Grist-Mill and
a Saw-Mill, with a gang of saws. For par-
ticulars, enquire of the subscriber.

Surveying performed on
reasonable terms. Enquire at the
Land-Office.

ISAAC VAN VLECK.

Newton, June 9, 1789.

66

To be sold,

A PRIVATE SALE,

That brick Dwelling

HOUSE AND STABLE,

with the LOT of GROUND on which
the same stand, in Dock-street, now in
occupation of Mess. Jauncey & Given—
containing in breadth, in front, about 49
feet—in rear 43 feet, and in length, on
both the sides, 111 feet—subject to an
annual rent of four shillings.

The terms of sale will be made easy to
the purchaser or purchasers. For particu-
lars apply to

GERRIT W. VAN SCHAIK,
No. 16, Dock-street, Albany.

March 28, 1789.

3m54

FOR SALE,

Five Hundred and Eight Acres of

LAND,

Within five miles of the thriving town of
JOHNSTOWN, in the county of Montgomery;
40 acres of which are under good improve-
ment. The land is good, well watered,
and convenient to mill and market. Any person
who will pay one half of the purchase money
down, shall have a good bargain, and long
credit will be allowed for the remainder.

For further particulars apply to the Printers
in Albany, or to the subscriber in Johnstown.

DUNCAN M'LAUREN.

June 9, 1789.

169

PURSUANT to an order of the hon.

Robert Yates, Esq. one of the judges
of the supreme court of judicature of the
state of New-York, on the petition of

Thaddeus Lawrence, an insolvent debtor, in
conjunction with so many of his creditors
as have debts owing to them by the said

insolvent, amounting to three fourths of
all the monies owing by him—Notice is
hereby given, to all the creditors of the

said Thaddeus Lawrence, to appear be-
fore the said judge at his chamber in State-
street, in the city of Albany, on the first
Tuesday of September next, at ten o'clock

in the forenoon of the said day, to show
cause, if any they have, why an assign-
ment of the estate of the said insolvent
should not be made for the benefit of all
his creditors, and he discharged, agreeably

to the directions of the act of the leg-
islature of this state for the relief of in-
solvent debtors, passed the 21st day of
March, 1788. Dated July 15th. 1789

THADEUS LAWRENCE.

Gilbert Perry and Lemuel Hyde, peti-
tioning creditors.

76186

THE

American Museum,

From July to June last, to be sold, in
Volumes or single Numbers, at Webster's
Printing-Office, No. 36, State-street, Al-
bany; where SUBSCRIPTIONS for the Mu-
seum are taken in.

The Shorter CATECHISM with
Scripture Proofs, to be sold at Webster's
Printing Office. Also, the

MOTHER'S CATECHISM.

James Chestney,

HAS FOR SALE,
At his STORE, No. 2, Market-street, AL-
BANY, A QUANTITY OF

SNUFF,

Of the very first quality, by the large or
small quantity.

ALSO, A
Quantity of Oakum.

Either of them very cheap for Cash or Produce.

HE HAS LIKEWISE FOR SALE,
An Assortment of Earthen Ware;
Dry and West-India Goods,
as usual—and a variety of Garden Seeds.

All persons indebted to the said Chestney
are requested to make immediate payment.

FOR SALE,

A VALUABLE

FARM

WITH A NEW

Dwelling HOUSE,

Baro, Out Buildings, &c. situated and lay-
ing in the Town of SALEM, commonly
known by the name of White Creek, in the
county of Washington and state of N. York.
The Farm is well situated for a STORE
and POT-ASH WORKS, or TAVERN, as
the highway goes through the said Farm be-
tween the dwelling house and barn, and the
White Creek, a never failing stream, runs
within a few feet of the back part of the barn.
It is excellent soil for Grass, Wheat, Corn, &c.
and newly an hundred tons of the best Hay
can be cut on it in its present situation, and
much more with a little trouble. It is bound-
ed on every side by very good improved farms,
with wealthy Livens thereon.

Any person inclining to purchase, may
know the terms, by applying to Mr.
GEORGE REAB, in ALBANY, and
immediate possession with a good title will
be given to the purchaser.

N. B. The terms will be made easy to the
purchaser.

March 26, 1789.

tf. 53

BY order of the honorable JOHN

SLOSS HOBART, Esquire, one of
the Judges of the Supreme Court of Ju-
dicature of the state of New-York; NO-
TICE is hereby given to Thomas Van

Wyck, late of the township of Oysterbay,
in Queen's county, in the state of New-
York, Farmer, an absconding and absent

debtor, and to all others whom it may
concern, that on application to the said
Judge by a creditor of the said Thomas

Van Wyck, he the said Judge, by virtue
of the act of the people of the state of
New York, represented in Senate and

Assembly, entitled "An act for relief a-
gainst absconding and absent debtors,
passed the fourth day of April, in the year

of our Lord one thousand seven hundred
and eighty-six, hath directed all the estate
real and personal of the said Thomas Van

Wyck, within this state, to be seized;
and that unless he, the said Thomas Van
Wyck, shall return and discharge his debts

within one year from the date hereof, all
his estate real and personal, will be sold
for the payment and satisfaction of his

creditors. Dated the twenty-first day of
August, in the year of our Lord one thou-
sand seven hundred and eighty-eight. 17

Advertifement.

PURSUANT to an order made by the
honorable Dick Wynkoop, Esquire,
a Judge of the court of common pleas
of the county of Ulster, upon the petition of

Henry Smith, an insolvent debtor, in
conjunction with so many of his creditors
as have debts owing to them by the said Henry

Smith, amounting at least to three fourths of
all the money owing by him—All the cred-
itors of the said Henry Smith are hereby

required to show cause, if any they have, on
the third Tuesday in September next, be-
tween the hours of ten and eleven in the

forenoon of the same day, at the court of
common pleas which is then to be held at
the court-house in Kingston, in and for the

said county of Ulster, before the judges and
assistant justices of the same court, why an
assignment of the said Henry Smith's estate

should not be made; and he, the said Henry
Smith, discharged according to the act of the
legislature of the state of New-York, entitled
"An act for giving relief in cases of insol-
vency," passed sixth day of March, 1788.

HENRY SMITH.

Dated 26th day of July, 1789.

Moses Highy, one of the petitioning cre-
ditors of the said Henry Smith.

62082

This day published, and now selling, at
Webster's Printing-Office,

The Congressional Register,

No. 1, 2, 3 and 4

Or, DEBATES of CONGRESS;

Taken in short hand, by
THOMAS LLOYD.

EACH Number contains 66 pages, of let-
ter press, on a fine paper; price to Sub-
scribers 1/6. to Non-Subscribers 1/9.

Subscriptions for the above work taken in
by the Printers hereof.

TO BE SOLD,

By William Chafe,

At the Great Bridge, in Schaghticoek,

40 head of OXEN,

from 4 to 7 years old; for which a short
credit will be given on good security.

June 15, 1789.

t. 1167

The Co-partnership of

PETER VAN DUERSEN AND

JACOB VAN DE BILT,

being this day dissolved, the subscribers
desire all persons indebted to the said firm,
to make immediate payment; and those
who have any demands are requested to
furnish their accounts that they may be
discharged.

April 14, 1789.

P. VAN DUERSEN,

J. VAN DE BILT.

Peter Van Duerfen,

BEGS leave to return his most sincere
thanks to his friends and customers
in general, for the many favors they have
been pleased to confer on the above firm,
and hopes in future, to receive their com-
mands, which he will always endeavor to
merit.

He has for sale,

At No. 4, in BEAVER-STREET,
Excellent soft SOAP, by the barrel, half
barrel, keg or pound; likewise, a gen-
eral Assortment of Groceries.

Gentlemen, from the country or city,
can be supplied with any Quantity of
hard Soap, mould and dipt Candles, on
the shortest notice, at his Manufactory.

A generous price in Cash, given
for Tallow. Albany, April 14, 1789.

Blanks.

Blank Leaves—Releases, war-
rantee and quit claim—Mortgages
—Bonds—Powers of Attorney—
Bills of Sale—Printices Indentures,
by the dozen or single, to be sold at
WEBSTER'S Printing Office, State-
street, Albany.

Doctor Van Zilver,

A regular Graduate, lately from the
UNIVERSITY of LEYDEN;

BEGS leave to inform the Public, that his
place of residence is at present in the City
of ALBANY—where he may be consulted
on any case concerning his FACULTY, which
is that of PHYSIC and MIDWIFERY—
He will wait on his employers with diligence
and assiduity.

August 6, 1789.

t. 1507

Published for Public Good.

The Ague & Fever

is cured, in a most surprizing and ex-
pedition manner, without the assistance
of the bark, by Doctor VAN ZILVER, in
ALBANY.

N. B. There is no absolute necessity
for an emetic to perfect the cure, unless
the stomach is uncommonly foul.

June 25, 1789.

t. 1570

THIS DAY PRINTED,

And now selling, at Webster's Printing-Of-
fice, State-street, Albany, (Price 1/7)

The TEN POUND ACT.

to which is added,

The Clause respecting Executions,
copied from the act, entitled An act for the
relief of debtors with respect to the imprison-
ment of their persons, passed 13th Feb. 1789.

Also, for sale, at the same Office, Blank
Executions of the new form.

State, alone, from the period 1789 to 1792, 54 different municipalities, individuals, businesses, churches, and other organizations printed small change paper money. This is evidence that New York was hardest hit by the demise of coppers and greatly needed this small denominational paper, since there were only eight known issuers from New Jersey, four from Pennsylvania,¹²⁹ including the Bank of North America, and two from Connecticut, there being no other New England state represented. Outside of the economic orbit of New York, the only other small change notes were those authorized by the City of Charleston, South Carolina, on October 9, 1793, in penny and twopence denominations.¹³⁰

In this period, nine New York congregations chose to issue paper notes instead of receiving devaluated coppers in their collections. The notable exception to this practice was the First Presbyterian Church of Albany which uttered the famous Albany Church one penny token on January 4, 1790.¹³¹ "One thousand coppers [were] stamped 'Church penny' and placed in the hands of the treasurer, for the purpose of exchanging with the congregation at the rate of twelve for one shilling, in order to add respect to the weekly collection." One such copper in the American Numismatic Society collection is struck over a counterfeit George III halfpenny.

All paper small change notes were not received with the same enthusiasm as that recorded for The Bank of North America initiative. On June 7, 1790, the New Jersey Assembly also heard from their select committee, in the report already cited, that due to:

... the depreciation of the Coppers, and the want of small change, a practice has almost universally prevailed throughout the state, of private persons issuing notes payable to the bearer for small sums; this practice the committee conceives to be improper, the same notes do not circulate throughout the state, and are therefore inconvenient to the holders; there is no security that they will be paid on demand, and indeed there are instances of persons issuing notes, and afterwards becoming insolvent, thereby defrauding the holders who are generally of the most ignorant class, and who ought therefore more particularly to be under the protection of the Legislature—Further, the notes increase the circulating paper medium, banish the small silver coins, and are a considerable profit to those who issue them, from the great number lost or destroyed in circulation, and which profit ought to be the emolument of the state and not of individuals.¹³²

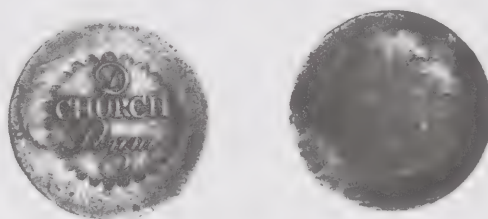


Fig. 73: Albany (N.Y.) Church Penny (uniface), overstruck on a counterfeit George III halfpenny whose details are noted on the "blank" side (101.1 grains).

The resolution was approved and a committee appointed to draft a bill "to remedy the Evil." Nothing could have come of this intention at a state level due to the restrictions of the new Constitution.

¹²⁹ The account of the small change issue of John Wray and James Lamberton from Carlisle, Pennsylvania, was carried in *Carlisle Gaz.*, Sept. 16, 1789. See Newman, *Paper Money*, p. 358.

¹³⁰ There were five other issuers of small change notes from New Jersey prior to 1789 (Newman, *Paper Money*, pp. 91-92, 239-42, 243, 271-85, and 427).

¹³¹ Kurth, *NumSm* 1944, quote p. 284; Breen, *Encyclopedia*, p. 131.

¹³² *New-Jersey*, June 7, 1790.

Messmer

Money of the
Am. Co. & Feb.
1793

Perhaps they'll yet start from this vault into clover,
To ouster us Coppers, thus flatly done over, &c.

Were Swift sent from Styx, with political caution,
To sing wooden half-pence again, out of fashion:
'T would not cause such fuss, between London and Dover,
As here, in Columbia, poor Coppers done over, &c.¹¹⁵

Had we and slut Conty, who dropt long before us,
Still kept with the wealthy, they'd prize and adore us;
But catch'd in hands needy, we feel her false lover
Repeat his fell stab, on us Coppers done over, &c.

Beware gold and silver your fate seems precarious,
The mediums of trade, are so jadish and various;
Keep clear of the poor, or be sure under cover,
Some speck shall condemn you, like Coppers done over, &c.

Ye minting brass founders, now, now is your harvest,
For fresh speculations, lo! Satan, thou carvest,
"Till ev'ry oppressor, and spect-money rover,
Shall weigh'd be like Coppers, and smartly done over, &c.

Away, now, ye beggars, and small-ware retailers,
Go, all suck your paws, through our downfal and failures;
Else, lay siege to Heaven—your pray'rs may recover
The death of the D—l [sic], and Coppers done over,
Done over, o.

It is probable that those whom the devaluation of copper affected the most, namely the poor and the smaller merchants, did not see much levity in the situation or appreciate the jokes poked at their misfortune. Such is the tone of a letter written to the editor of *The Federal Gazette*.

Mr. Brown.

It is really laughable to hear the different opinions offered about the copper coin. But to be serious, I would advise the Corporation of the large trading cities to endeavor to come to some agreement about the rate at which coppers shall be received in payments as change, at least such of them as appear to be good copper.¹¹⁶

This was essentially the course that many cities adopted. The New York Common Council recommended a rate of 48 coppers to the shilling on July 21, 1789, an action also taken by Albany four days later where the following scenario was described:

The immense quantities of light coppers made of base metal, which have been teaming in upon us for near a twelve-month at different parts of the state, particularly New York [City], have at length occasioned a depreciation of near 3/4ths of their value. Many of the merchants and shop keepers of this city [Albany], must sustain considerable losses, by so sudden a depreciation, nor are they the only sufferers on this occasion, every class of citizen will experience it, in a greater or lesser degree, particularly the bakers and

¹¹⁵ Another reference to Wood's coinages.

¹¹⁶ *Fed. Gaz.*, Aug. 1, 1789.

butchers; there is an instance of one of the former receiving, in the course of one day last week, in trifling sums, upward of six pounds.¹¹⁷

Philadelphia refused to endorse a position but deferred to an exchange rate for coppers set by market forces since they recognized they had no right to act under the new Constitution. By September 5, 1789, the exchange rate for New Jersey coppers in New York had improved to 24 per shilling, which were the only coppers authorized to circulate in the state. This fact was noted in the press by the following news item with an admonishment: "Coppers with the Jersey stamp, are now current at two for a penny: It is hoped, that the mint masters [*sic*] will be so moderate as not to glut the market."¹¹⁸ New Jersey coppers were preferentially received since they enjoyed a legal tender status in their home state for the payment of taxes.¹¹⁹

Not only were the municipalities struggling under this deluge of unwanted copper coin, but also the state governments of Connecticut and New Jersey were perplexed as to how to empty their respective treasuries of this rejected money. The constitutional prohibition against state coinages notwithstanding, the Connecticut Assembly directed the state treasurer in December 1790, to sell or dispose of the coppers remaining in the treasury in exchange for liquidated notes or state securities, provided that that "he can obtain two shillings in said Notes or Securities pr [*sic*] pound weight for said Coppers." This would imply an official "suggested" exchange rate for this fiscal paper of 24.3 coppers per shilling for regulation weight coins of 144 grains. It is to be recalled that Connecticut never published an exchange rate for coppers in that jurisdiction. Apparently the move did not rid the state coffers of coppers since a May 1791 instruction to the state treasurer authorized him "to dispose of the Coppers now in the Treasury and the property of this State to the best advantage"¹²⁰

Massachusetts apparently had no problem with its coppers and did not alter the exchange rate of the residual cents and half cents remaining in the treasury as evidenced by a resolution passed on June 10, 1790. The document instructed the state treasurer to pay out copper cents for debts of the Commonwealth at the rate of 108 for six shillings, lawful money, and to receive such coppers into the treasury at the same rate, "any law or resolve to the contrary notwithstanding."¹²¹ It certainly appears that Massachusetts coppers maintained their regulated value throughout this period.

An interesting comment made by Jeremy Belknap in relation to English coppers circulating in New Hampshire is worthy of examination.¹²² The historian described various scenes of patriotism at the time of the Revolution where citizens of the state profaned in one way or another all images of the monarchy "and the half-pence, which bore the name of George III, were either refused in payment, or degraded to farthings." To conclude the passage written in 1791, Belknap added, "These last have not yet recovered their value." The implication of this statement is that English coppers in New Hampshire were depreciated in 1776 for an entirely different reason and never regained their former value. It is unlikely that this continued depression in that state in the value of English coppers, most of which were likely counterfeit, had anything to do with the Coppers Panic.

The legal tender status of legitimate New Jersey coppers was threatened by the presence of the overstruck Elizabethtown issues and "camel heads" previously described in detail, which it is believed, came on the scene after the summer of 1789. These lightweight coppers became

¹¹⁷ *Penna. Pack.*, Aug. 6, 1789. Six pounds, or 120 shillings, in coppers at 48 to the shilling would yield 5760 coppers! Six pounds, avdp., at about 60 to the pound, approximates 360 coins.

¹¹⁸ *Gaz. of U.S.*, Sept. 5, 1789; *Fed. Gaz.*, Sept. 8, 1789; *N.H. Spy*, Sept. 12, 1789; *Va. Gaz.*, Sept. 17, 1789.

¹¹⁹ Although the authorization for New Jersey coppers did not grant a legal tender status *per se*, they were receivable for all debts owed to the state implying *de facto* legal tender recognition.

¹²⁰ Crosby, *Early Coins*, p.224.

¹²¹ Crosby, *Early Coins*, p. 273.

¹²² Belknap, *New-Hampshire*, vol. 2, p. 311.

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A penny minted in 1790 for the First Presbyterian Church of Albany recently sold for \$64,000 on eBay.



The Rev. Glenn Leupold, right, shown with co-pastor Miriam Lawrence Leupold, are new to First Presbyterian Church of Albany. (Skip Dickstein / Times Union)

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Small change, big payoff

A rare Albany church penny sells for \$64,000 at auction

By DANIELLE FURFARO, Staff writer
Click byline for more stories by writer.
First published: Thursday, January 11, 2007
ALBANY -- When is a penny worth more than a penny? When it is worth \$64,000, plus a 15 percent buyer premium.

That is what an original Albany church penny sold for last week after receiving international exposure on eBay.



The cloudy-looking 217-year-old copper coin reads "D Church Penny" on one side and the other is smooth and blank.

The penny was minted for the First Presbyterian Church of Albany in 1790, about the same time that Alexander Hamilton was a parishioner.

But other information about the penny, including theories on how it was used, is speculation.

"We're still not 100 percent sure, but we believe these were received by church members to indicate that they took communion or meant to be given as a gift," said Mark Borekardt, senior cataloguer at Heritage Auction Galleries in Dallas.

The Rev. Glenn Leupold, co-pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, said the penny functioned as sort of a church offering gift certificate.

"It was a coin you could put on the offering plate that represented an amount you had already given to the church in advance," he said. "If I said I was going to give a dollar a week, which was a lot of money back then, I would put in one of these coins."

The Walter H. Breen Complete Encyclopedia of U.S. and Colonial Coins offers a more intriguing theory. It suggests that, at a time just after the Revolutionary War when emotions about religious persecution were still running high, the coins were used to identify church members so royal spies could be kept from attending services and betraying them.

A handful of the 1,000 or so Albany church pennies initially minted remain in circulation. Borekardt said no pennies from any other American church are still in circulation and he doubts any others were ever minted. Scottish church pennies are common, however.

"Maybe we were the only ones who thought that would be a useful way of keeping track of finances," said Leupold. "I don't know why other churches didn't think of it."

The penny sold recently was part of a parcel in the Heritage Auction Galleries' January public auction, which includes thousands of coins that

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- Sales
Representative
Automotive Sales
Representative
Kee...

Associate Attorney
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Albany Law Firm
seeks ...

Senior Field
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Park, New York)
Provide Technical
Ad...

Food Service
ARAMARK Campus
Dining Services
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EMPLOYMENT
SUPERVISOR
Potential
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SHIPPING
ASSOCIATE Albany
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(NASDAQ: AM...

Office Nurse FT
for busy
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Experience
require...

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sold from a few hundred dollars to a almost \$2 million. Heritage declined to reveal the buyer of the Albany piece.

"This piece sold for far above the majority of most pieces," Borckardt said.

It came to Heritage from the collection of Troy Wiseman, a California businessman who founded the B.U.M. International clothing company. Before that, it most likely traveled through the hands of dozens of coin collectors over the centuries, Borckardt said.

Wendell Williams was one of those collectors. The owner of Albany-based Ferris Stamp & Coin Co. had a couple of them in the late 1960s, when they were valued in the \$300 to \$500 range.

"They've got a reputation and they are scarce," said Williams.

Still, he believes \$64,000 is about as high as an Albany Church Penny will sell for.

"Condition is everything," he said. "It was probably one of the nicer specimens that has been found."

As for Leupold, he's only half joking when he says he'll scour the State Street church to see if there are any more of the pennies around. It would be unlikely: The church has moved at least twice since it was founded in 1763.

"This is reminder, as I sit here worrying about what is best for this church in the next five years, of just how long rooted this congregation is," Leupold said.

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COMMUNION TOKENS

OF THE

WORLD

By

Lester M. Burzinski

American Numismatic
Society
Library
Washington, D.C. 20004

INTRODUCTION

COMMUNION TOKENS

BY
ANDREW T. MACMILLAN

Communion tokens were most notably a feature of the Presbyterian Church in Scotland. They were used not only in the Established Church but by the various Secession and Free Churches, the Episcopal Church in Scotland, and occasionally others, such as Methodist and Wesleyan. Scots took the tradition abroad with them, and significant numbers are recorded from Ireland, England, Canada, the USA, Australia, New Zealand and elsewhere. With experience, one recognizes different styles from different period, churches, countries, and districts of Scotland.

The original purpose of the tokens was to identify those considered worthy to take part in the communion service and to prevent those not well instructed in the faith or not of good character from approaching the communion table. In times of persecution, tokens served to exclude strangers and possible spies from the open air conventicles, when this could be a matter of life and death. In the early days, discipline was strict, and celebration of Holy Communion (once or twice a year, but sometimes at much longer intervals) was an important part of life in Scotland. Later the communion season became a great social and religious gathering, continuing from preparatory services as early as Thursday, through to thanksgiving on the Monday. When farm servants in Scotland were engaged, they would sometimes bargain for time off to attend.

The kirk session and minister decided who should get the tokens, which were handed out by the minister at the preparatory service or distributed by the elders. On occasion, the communion service could last all day, with several ministers serving great numbers at a succession of 'tables'. Communicants surrendered their tokens usually at the entrance to the table, or when seated, taking their places at the sitting shown by the table number on the token. Table numbers could also indicate different locations in the church when it was possible to seat everyone at once.

There were variations in procedure, and in later times the strictness of the early days was seen as less appropriate, but tokens continued to be used. To be refused one was a matter of great shame in a small community. These tokens of admission to the Lord's Supper were guarded with reverence, on account of their hallowed associations, and appear in inventories of church property. They sometimes served as an introduction when a person moved to a new parish, at home or abroad.

Early communion tokens were usually made of lead, but in the nineteenth century harder lead-and-tin mixtures (referred to as white metal, or pewter) took over. Then brass, copper, bronze, sheet iron and aluminium are much less usual; and there are rare instances of unlikely materials such as wood, leather, ivory, porcelain, plastic and silver.

Made locally, perhaps by the blacksmith under supervision of the elders, the oldest tokens have only the initial letter of the parish, or (mostly a little later) of the minister's name, often prefaced by M for Mr. Even when the same letter appears, each parish's token is distinct; K is a frequent abbreviation for kirk. A date on the 1588 Glasgow token is recorded, but the oldest one with a date that survives is 1648, and dates only became common from the end of the seventeenth century. Early dates can be given to some tokens from the minister's initials on them. Sometimes, as with many 1843 Free Church tokens, dates refer to the formation of the congregation, rather than the date of issue.

Letters and figures on old tokens may be incuse or raised, and not infrequently retrograde, and there is much individual variation in size and lettering, reflecting the various simple ways in which they were made. Representations of churches, the burning bush, the communion cup, and many other relevant symbols, including burgh arms, are much more a feature of the nineteenth century, when material and specialist manufacture in the cities allowed more elaborate design and lettering. These tokens are the least varied, and generally carry much detail, including biblical references and texts, such as 'Let a man examine himself' and 'This do in remembrance of Me'. A cross or the letters IHS usually suggest an Episcopal token.

The old ones are often small, but communion tokens vary greatly in size, from about ½ inch to 1½ inch, and in shape. Many nineteenth century tokens are oblong with cut corners, or oval; but the square, oblong and round shapes were general before that, and many other shapes are found, including hexagon, octagon, triangle, diamond, heart, trefoil, quatrefoil and shield. The table number is often shown or, in a few instances, indicated by a series of holes or notches), and a few nineteenth century tokens have individual serial numbers. Many old tokens mentioned in parish records are lost, from the habit of melting the old ones to make the new tokens, when a new minister was installed or the old tokens became too worn. Likewise there are tokens that cannot now be identified. Some churches used more than one shape or type of token at the same time, to distinguish those issued for the current service from those issued previously. Some of the old tokens, such as those used by the Covenanters, are non-local; and stock tokens, without the name of the church, were commonly used in the nineteenth century, especially by the Free Church.

Various other kinds of tokens were used both secularly and by the Churches before the Reformation; as, for example, in payment for the services of the clergy in France, to be exchanged for money, and as bread money for the poor. In the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries the Church of England sold communion halfpence (token money) to raise the dues payable by its members. This was never done in the Church of Scotland, though the people might have to show they had given to the poor before getting a token. There are references to communion tokens being used occasionally by the Roman Catholic Church.

Communion tokens are probably not an innovation at the Reformation, but an adaptation of existing customs, evolved from ancient use of tokens to identify members of all kinds of societies. The use of lead tokens to protect the sacrament of the Lord's Supper was suggested by Calvin in Geneva in 1560, and taken up by the Huguenots in France the following year, and in Scotland (and also in Holland) not long afterwards.

At the end of the sixteenth century, handwritten tickets (of which none survives) and metal tokens were both used in Scotland, even together on the same occasion, but lead tokens soon prevailed. At that time tokens were often referred to as tickets, and vice versa. Their use became almost universal in Scotland, but from the middle of the nineteenth century printed communion cards, on which the individual's name is written, began to take over. Despite the fairly general use of cards by the end of the century, some remote parishes continue to use tokens to this day.

Communion cards are used to record attendance. In some places open communion became more usual.

After communion tokens ceased to be used regularly, churches occasionally produced commemorative pieces, or copied the old tokens, to make local anniversaries, often from a special interest in the old ways. These tokens were normally used on that occasion and then kept by the worshippers. There are quite a few USA examples, as in the 1960's, and others from Scotland and elsewhere. Some of these are superb, but in a deliberately artistic and intellectual style that is a long way from the simple tokens of the past.

As the literature shows, interest in communion tokens dates from about 1890, and collecting flourished in the years following the publication of the lists of Dick and Brook - still the basic references. Ignoring table number, there are well over 5,000 distinct Scottish tokens in the various lists, but much smaller numbers from other countries. The Oliver Keith Rumbel collection in Austin, Texas is claimed to be the largest in the world.

*Above Introduction was taken from *The First Dictionary of Paronymism* devised and edited by Brian Edge. 1991

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- 150 O: ABERNETHY PARISH CHURCH 1863
(B B in center)
R: THIS DO IN REMEMBRANCE OF ME/
1.COR.XI 24 (in center)
Oval 28x22 WM
(Cr-128) (42-44)
Min. Archibald Scott, 1863-1865
Abernethy, Perthshire, Scotland ✓
- 151 O: ABERNYTE
R: 1842.
Rd. 27 WM
(Cr-129) (42-45)
Min. James Wilson, 1808-1844
Abernyte, Perthshire, Scotland ✓
- 152 O: FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND 1848
ABERNYTE (in centre)
R: 1st COR./XI.23 30
Oval 28x21 WM
(Cr-130) (44-28)
Abernyte, Perthshire, Scotland
- 153 O: ABERUTHVEN/3/1852 (# incuse)
R: THIS DO IN/REMEMBRANCE/OF ME/
BUT LET A MAN/EXAMINE HIMSELF
(KIRKWOOD top border EDINR bottom)
Rect.C.C. 26x18 WM
(Cr-131) (44-29)
Aberuthven, Perthshire, Scotland ✓
- 154 O: A. B./F. P. C./1812
R: I.COR./XI 28 29
Oval 28x17 WM
(Cr-132) (D-378)
Min. Adam Blair, 1809-1840 1st Min.
Tayport, Fife, Scotland ✓
- 155 O: ABINGTON/AND/CRAWFORDJOHN/
FREE CHURCH./—/1850.
R: THIS DO IN/REMEMBRANCE/OF ME./
I.COR.XI.24.
Rect.C.C. 27x19 WM
(Cr-133) (44-30)
Abington & Crawfordjohn, Lanarkshire, Scotland
- 156 O: AB/K (incuse)
R: Blank
Rd. 17
(Cr-134) (40-8)
Aberlady, Lothians, Scotland
- 157 O: AB/K (incuse)
R: Blank
Triangular 19
(Cr-135) (40-7)
Aberlady, Lothians, Scotland
- 158 O: ABL (in panel, 2 dots inside L)
R: Blank
Rd. 18 Lead - Size Var
(Cr-136) (7-12)
Aberlady, Lothians, Scotland ✓
- 159 O: ABL (A is unbarred, possibly in error)
R: Blank
Rect. 17x11 Lead - Size Var
(Cr-137) (7-13)
Aberlady, Lothians, Scotland
- 160 O: ABL (in panel, A is barred)
R: Blank
Rect. 21x19 Lead - Size Var
(Cr—) (7-12a)
Aberlady, Lothians, Scotland ✓
- 161 O: +A+B+/+M+ (4 pointed stars)
R: 1710/(scroll orn.)
Rect. 17x18
(Cr-138) (46-4)
Arbroath, Angus, Scotland
- 162 O: ++/AB/+M+ (4 pointed star)
R: 1710/(scroll orn.) (date at angle)
Sq. 17
(Cr—) (46-4---var.)
Arbroath, Angus, Scotland ✓
- 163 O: A B/M/1729
R: M/I G
Sq. 16
(Cr-139) (46-5) (D-979)
Min. John Grub
Arbroath, Angus, Scotland
- 164 O: (Earl's coronet)/ABOYNE
R: ROBERT MILNE (orn) 1826 (in center)
Rd. 24
(Cr-140) (42-46)
Min. Robert Milne, 1826-1853
Aboyne, Aberdeenshire, Scotland
- 165 O: PARISH/OF/ABOYNE/1854
R: THIS DO/IN/REMEMBRANCE/OF ME
Oval 28x23 WM
(Cr-141) (42-47)
Min. James Jenkins, 1848-1861
Aboyne, Aberdeenshire, Scotland ✓
- 166 O: A B/R C (incuse)
R: Blank
Sq. 17 WM
(Cr-142) (D-106)
Auchterarder, Perthshire, Scotland ✓
- 167 O: ABT
R: Blank
Rect. 19x13
(Cr-143) (7-122b)
Boleskine & Abertarff, Inverness-shire, Scotland
- 168 O: AC (in script)
R: Blank (lathe work band inside)
Rd. 24 Pewter
Stock Token
(Cr-144) (AB-71) (W-1)
Albany, NY USA ✓
- 169 O: AC (in script)
R: Blank wide border
Rd. 24 Pewter
Stock Token
(Cr-145) (AB-178) (W-137)
Unity, OH USA
- 170 O: AC (in script)
R: Blank
Rd. 24 Pewter

- (Cr-146) (AB-86) (W-183)
East Greenwich, NY USA
- 171 O: AC (in script)
R: Blank beaded border, raised center, border
Rd. 24 Pewter
Stock Token
(Cr-147) (AB-166) (W-80)
New Athens, OH USA
- 172 O: AC (in script)
R: Blank (incused ring in center)
Rd. 24 Lead
Stock Token
(Cr-148) (AB-117) (W-148)
West Delhi, NY USA ✓
- 173 O: AC (in script)
R: Blank 2 concentric circles, beaded
Rd. 23 Lead
(Cr-149) (B-37) (CE-244)
Rockburn, Quebec, Canada ✓
- 174 O: A C
R: Blank
Rd. 19 WM
(Cr-150) (D-325)
East Linton, Lothians, Scotland ✓
~~East Linton, Lothians, Scotland~~
- 175 O: A C
R: Blank
Rd. 16
(Cr-151) (M-219)
Min. Andrew Clements, 1833-1867
Moville, Co. Donegal, Ireland
- 176 O: A.C. (within dotted circle)
Blank
Oval 28x22 Pewter
(Cr-152) (AB-232) (W-52)
Glade Run, PA USA ✓
- 177 O: AC (in script)
R: Blank
Rd. 24 Pewter
Stock Token
(Cr---) (AB-114)
Shushan, NY USA
- 178 O: AC (in script)
R: Blank
Rd. 24
Stock Token
(Cr---) (AB-90)
Hebron, NY USA
- 179 O: AC (incuse)
R: Blank
Rect. 17x9 Copper, thin, letter & size var.
(Cr---) (AB-418)
Fort Defiance, VA USA
- 180 O: AC (surrounded by dots)
R: Blank
Oval 28x22 Lead
(Cr-153) (AB-298) (W-88)
Noblestown, PA USA
- R: Blank
Oval 28x21 Lead
(Cr-154) (AB-261) (W-69)
Mechanicsburg, PA USA
- 182 O: AC
R: Blank
Oval 28x21 Pewter
(Cr-155) (AB-31) (W-28)
Carmel, IN USA
- 183 O: A.C. (within dotted circle)
R: Blank
Oval 28x21 Lead
(Cr-156) (AB-326) (W-99)
Pittsburgh, PA USA
- 184 O: AC (incuse)
R: Blank
Sq. 14 Lead
(Cr-157) (M-9)
Alte Clady, Co. Tyrone, Ireland ✓
- 185 O: A C
R: Blank
Rect. 22x13
(Cr-159) (M-264)
Min. Alexander Cathead
Kellswater, Co. Antrim, Ireland ✓
- 186 O: AC
R: Blank
Rect. 16x8
(Cr---) (AB-245)
Alexandria, PA USA
- 187 O: AC/6 (# incuse)
R: Blank
Rect. 21x19
(Cr-160) (7-46a)
Applecross, Ross & Cromarty, Scotland
- 188 O: AC (in script)
R: J.T.N
Rd. 24 Lead
(Cr-3074) (AB-92) (W-186)
Johnstown, NY USA
- 189 O: A C
R: S.V.
Rect. Concave C 19x14
(Cr-5862) (AB-359) (W-128)
Stone Valley, PA USA ✓
- 190 O: A C
R: T (incuse)
Sq. 14
(Cr-158) (M-218d)
Min. Andrew Clements, 1833-1867
Moville, Co. Donegal, Ireland
- 191 O: AC/1755 (erection of church)
R: M/MA
Sq. 16 Lead
(Cr-161) (D-725)
Min. Richard Jerment
Peebles, Peebles-shire, Scotland

- 331 O: ALBANY
R: PRESBYTERIAN/CHURCH
Rect. 27x16 WM
(Cr-287) (M-7a)
Albany, Co. Tyrone, Ireland ✓
- 332 O: S^t JOHN'S CHURCH ALBION MINES, N.S.
TOKEN (in center)
R: CHURCH OF SCOTLAND 1866 (in center)
Rect. C.C. 26x19 WM
(Cr-288) (B-140) (NS-202)
Min. William M. Phillips, 1863-1870
Albion Mines, Nova Scotia, Canada ✓
- 333 O: ALEXANDRIA PARISH CHURCH.
OPENED./6th SEPT^r /1840 (in center)
R: FIRST MINISTER./ORDAINED./22^d.
APRIL/1841.
Rect. 25x20 WM
(Cr-289) (42-54)
Min. Henry Douglas, 1841-1843
Alexandria, Dunbartonshire, Scotland ✓
- 334 O: Type 1
R: ALEXANDRIA/FREE CHURCH./1843./
"THIS DO IN/REMEMBRANCE OF ME."
Rect. C.C. 26x19 WM
(Cr-290) (44-35)
Min. William Campbell, 1844-1851
Alexandria, Dunbartonshire, Scotland ✓
- 335 O: UNITED PRESBYTERIAN/CHURCH/
ALEXANDRIA/W.S./MDCCCLVI.
R: THIS DO IN/REMEMBRANCE/OF ME./
I.COR.XI.24.
Rect. C.C. 27x19 WM
(Cr-291) (D-84)
Min. William Sprott, 1850-1861
Alexandria, Dunbartonshire, Scotland ✓
- 336 O: OLD PRESBYTERIAN MEETING HOUSE
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA Bldg./1774-1974
R: THOM-KEITH-MUIR-HARRISON-PHIFER-
SENGEL-BECOME TO US/THE LIVING
BREAD, THE NEVER-FAILING/
WINE./ALLELUIA!
Rd. 33 Bronze
Alexandria, VA USA ✓
- 337 O: ALFORD/1763
R: Blank
Sq. 24 Lead
(Cr-292) (7-24)
Min. Alexander Johnston, 1746-1778
Alford, Aberdeenshire, Scotland ✓
- 338 O: ALFORD
R: 1832
Rd. 24 WM
(Cr-293) (42-55)
Min. James Farquharson, 1812-1843
Alford, Aberdeenshire, Scotland ✓
- 339 O: 2nd U.P. CHURCH ALLEGHENY
TOKEN (in center)
R: THIS DO IN REMEMBRANCE OF ME.
(communion cup in center)
- Oval 25x19 WM
(Cr-294) (AB-186) (W-160)
Allegheny City, PA USA ✓
- 340 O: 2nd U.P. CHURCH * ALLEGHENY *
TOKEN (in center)
R: THIS DO IN REMEMBRANCE OF ME *
(communion cup in center)
Oval 25x19 WM - Thick
(Cr---) (AB-186a)
Allegheny City PA USA ✓
- 341 O: U.P./WEST CHURCH/ALLOA
R: THIS DO IN/REMEMBRANCE/OF ME
Oval 27x21 WM
(Cr-295) (D-87)
Alloa, Clackmannanshire, Scotland
- 342 O: T.W/ALLO^a /1770
R: Blank
Sq. 17
(Cr-296) (D-86)
Min. Thomas Waters, 1769-1809 1st Min.
Alloa, Clackmannanshire, Scotland
- 343 O: ASSO:CON:/ALLOA
R: REV^d /J^s SMITH/1810
Oval 29x22 WM
(Cr-297) (D-864)
Min. James Smith
Alloa, Clackmannanshire, Scotland ✓
- 344 O: ALLOA/8/8.AUG.1819 (1st 8 incuse)
R: 1st CORⁿ /XI.CHAP../VERSES /23 to 29.
Sq. 18 WM
(Cr-298) (42-56)
Min. James Maxton, 1803-1828
Alloa, Clackmannanshire, Scotland ✓
- 345 O: ALLOA/4/8.AUG.1819 (1st # incuse)
R: 1st CORⁿ /XI.CHAP../VERSES/23 to 29
Octagon 21 WM
(Cr-299) (42-57)
Min. James Maxton, 1803-1828
Alloa, Clackmannanshire, Scotland ✓
- 346 O: 1ST.UN.ASSO.CONGⁿ /ALLOA/1828
R: 5 (in oval panel)
Oval 30x20 WM
(Cr-300) (D-85)
Alloa, Clackmannanshire, Scotland ✓
- 347 O: ALLOA/1843
R: FREE/CHURCH
Rect. Noched C. 24x17 WM
(Cr-301) (44-36)
Min. John Adams, 1843-1849
Alloa, Clackmannanshire, Scotland ✓
- 348 O: EAST FREE CHURCH 1854
ALLOA (in center)
R: THIS DO IN/REMEMBRANCE/OF ME./
BUT LET A MAN/EXAMINE/HIMSELF.
Rect. C.C. 26x21 WM
(Cr-302) (44-37)
Min. John Wright, 1843-1893
Alloa, Clackmannanshire, Scotland ✓

County Kildare

Athy 556

County Leitrim

Creevelea 1108
Drumkeeran 1770

County Limerick

Limerick 4278

County Londonderry

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Sligo 6319

County Tipperary

Tipperary 6867

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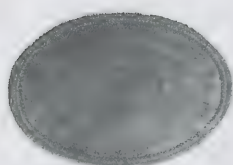
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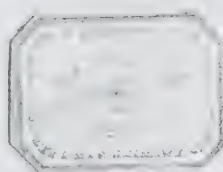
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144 (O)



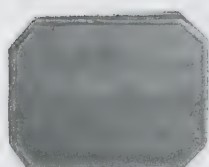
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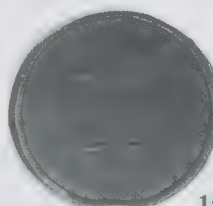
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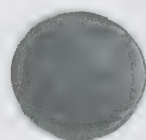
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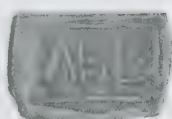
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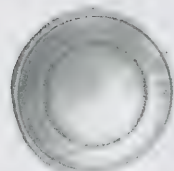
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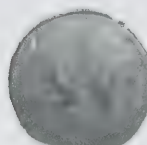
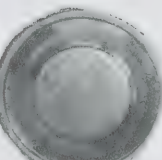
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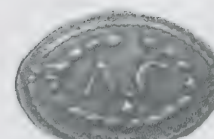
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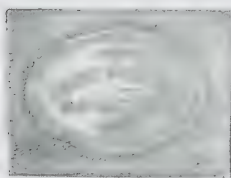
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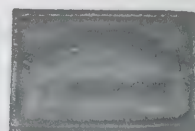
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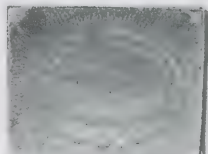
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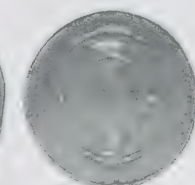
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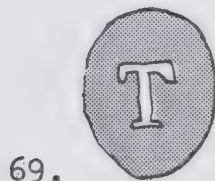
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COMMUNION TOKENS OF THE UNITED STATES
OF
AMERICA

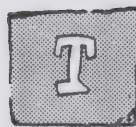
by

Autence A. Bason

NEW JERSEY



69.



70.

69. Paterson, organized 1857.

Obv. T for Token, counterstamped letter.

Rev. (blank)

Round 14 lead, so listed by Warner. Token in my collection up. oval, also in Rumbel collection, 12x14.

H.F. -R AB

Another, Obv. T Rev. (blank)

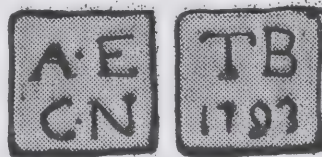
Square 12 lead.

H.F. -R

NEW YORK



71.



72.

71. Albany Organized 1800.

Obv. A.C. for Associate Church, in script letters with plain raised border.

Rev. (blank) raised center with lathe-work band inside plain border.

Round 15 pewter.

This token was made by James Maxwell, elder in the church; it has several reverses, and was used by a few other churches.-Warner.

H.F. -R AB

72. Argyle, Washington County, now South Argyle, Cossayuna. Organized August 17, 1785.

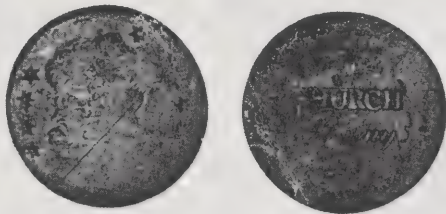
Obv. A.E/C.N for Argyle Congregation, raised rim border.

Rev. T B/1793 for Thomas Beveridge, pastor 1789-98, raised rim border.

Square 13 lead. An Associate Presbyterian Church, later a United Presbyterian Church. See Cyclopedic Manuel, p 550. -Freeland.

H.F.-R

Albany Church Penny



- 1135 (1790) Albany Church penny. Breen-1169. Fine or better where struck up. Copper. 104.4 grains. A prized rarity with a twist: an unusual specimen in that the otherwise blank reverse has been countersunk with the obverse of a Classic Head half cent (1809-1836 type). The obverse of the half cent was evidently used as a die and hammered into the back of the church penny, causing reversed incusations of the half cent's design on the host piece's reverse, and some flatness on the obverse of the church penny as well.

Accompanied by a recent ANAAB certificate attesting to the genuine nature of the coin.

Mickley Sale (Woodcock)

74P143-144

Lot

(\$4.00) 2471.

New York Cent, Church Penny. On the 4th of January, 1790, the Trustees of the First Presbyterian Church of Albany,
"Resolved, that one thousand coppers be stamped Church Penny, and placed with the treasurer ^(italics) to exchange with members of the congregation, at the rate of twelve for one shilling, in order to add respect to the weekly collection!
This piece is in good condition, and of great rarity.



620. 1652 OAK TREE THREEPENCE. Nice electrotype of a holed and plugged threepence. Very nicely executed.

621. MASSACHUSETTS TOKEN. Royal Coin Company Reverse Massachusetts token with nicely executed Pine Tree Shilling obverse. 79.7 gns.

622. SOMMER ISLANDS SIXPENCE - UNKNOWN ORIGIN UNLISTED STRUCK COPY - COPPER PROOF 64 49.1 gns. Ex Richard Picker Collection. Absolutely choice chocolate brown surfaces. All designs finely etched and boldly struck with a wonderful flair. A great coin. Ex Coin Galleries 11/90 Lot #2544 Lot Ticket not included

623. "1778" NON DEPENDENS STATUS AU55 131.4 gns. As summarized by our consignor: Probably a fantasy piece of George H. Lovett, ca. 1862-3. Medium brown predominantly with some very dark shadowing providing contrast. Scattered light porosity but nothing serious.

624. CRUDE FORGERY OF ALBANY CHURCH PENNY - STRUCK OVER A CONNECTICUT COPPER F12 124.7 gns. A Church Penny copy die struck several times with great force to create a fake Albany Church Penny on a worn and defective Connecticut Copper as a planchet. CHURCH PENNY easily read but chatter struck. Struck within a serrated border. Host coin seriously warped in the act, undertype legend visible around edge. Reverse is bent pitted and blank.

625. "1792 "GETZ HALF DOLLAR - ELECTROTYPE - PLAIN EDGE BAKER 28 EF45 270.9 gns. Once silvered to create a fake rarer rarity, large portions remain on the obverse, much less on the reverse where it is toned a deep chocolate brown.

626. WASHINGTON SUCCESS TOKEN - ELECTROTYPE - LARGE PLANCHET AU55 72.0 gns. Chocolate brown with hints of mint red. This is a frightening electro because it is so good. Very thin and light. An incredible high end piece was used as the model.

627. USA BA COPPER - STRUCK COPY VF20 102.7 gns. Smooth and appealing light brown surfaces. The obverse looks about right, but the reverse bars somehow are too thick, and they extend too far to the edge of the planchet.

628. (1672-1675) SAINT PATRICK HALFPENNY - COPY - VLACK 1-A BREEN 198 MARIS 1-A VF35 162.2 gns. Rather garish pink and gold tones is the first give away that something is wrong, COPY stamped on the edge is the second. Comes with John Griffie signed envelope.

629. 1774 CONTEMPORARY COUNTERFEIT BRITISH HALFPENNY - DOUBLE STRUCK - VF20. The overlapping second strike is only on the obverse, and it only really shows on the bust itself. That is part of the appeal of this coin. The back of the King's head is reproduced over the center of his head. The result is he has a bold hair ribbon sprouting out from where his ear should be. Light brown, reasonably smooth, reflective, and problem free.

630. A group of 5 cast copies of rare colonial types including a Brasher Doubloon. Were these real they would be worth several hundreds of thousands of dollars! And were I Gregory Hines I could dance.

631. Trio of Early Colonial Coppers. 1721-H French Colonies Breen-261 VG7. 91.3 grains. A few dull marks. Glossy chocolate and medium brown. 1723 Wood's Hibernia Farthing Breen-172 with 12 harpstrings F12. 50.9 grains. Sharper but slightly rough. Strong date and legends. 1723/2 Wood's Hibernia Halfpenny Breen-153 F15. 113.2 grains. Ten points sharper but granular. The 3 over 2 overdate is visible. Recolored glossy medium brown and chocolate and coated with lacquer. Lot of 3 coins.

632. Mixed Grille of 5 Colonial Coppers. 1785 Nova Constellatio C.3-B (R-1) G5. 106.3 grains. 1788 Vermont R.25 (R-2+) G6. 115.5 grains. 1783 Washington Unity States Cent VF20. 116.6 grains. Sharpness EF40 but lightly corroded and recolored golden brown. 1783 Washington Unity States Cent VG8. 113.2 grains. Smooth and glossy with a couple marks and lots of wear. (1792-4) Kentucky Cent Plain Edge F12. 152.5 grains. Slightly sharper with a half dozen small pinpricks on the obverse. Ex 2000 C4 Sale, lot 472, Lot of 5 coins.

LEATHER BOUND PRESENTATIONS COPY OF THE 8TH ANNUAL C-4 CONVENTION SALE CATALOG FEATURING THE JESSE PATRICK COLLECTION OF CONNECTICUT COPPERS. All proceeds to C-4.

DL-16 A deluxe leather presentation copy of the 8th Annual C-4 Convention Sale catalog with additional photographs. One of 12 signed bound copies produced. All proceeds from sale lot go to C-4.

END OF SALE

This year we would like to single out a few people in particular for gestures big and small that helped this all come together. When the stakes were high and time was short they came through with exactly what we needed exactly when we needed it. Jesse Patrick not only had wonderful coins, he had wonderful narrative notes for them, parts of which, with his permission, made their way directly into lot descriptions. Bobby Martin was invaluable in tracking down key census information for many special Connecticut Coppers throughout this sale. Rob Retz was equally gracious with his knowledge on Fugio Cents. Syd Martin and Brian Danforth, of the Woods Hibernia Working Group, helped do our job for us, and Alice Victor-McCawley is responsible for keeping the cataloger alive and functioning in the final critical weeks of this project.



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What a fabulous auction opportunity! Heritage is seeking the full range of U.S. coins & currency, ancient coins, and world coins & currency for our September 2006 Long Beach Signature Auctions. We are also interested in tokens and medals valued above \$1,000; but our space for exnumia is limited. Call one of our Consignment Directors today to discuss our complete range of auction services. The Long Beach Signature Auctions are rapidly filling, with more than \$10 million in rare coins and currency already on hand. We still have room for your valued material, but you need to act now to take advantage of this superb opportunity to sell alongside the Troy Wiseman Collection.

You need to take the first step to participate in this prestigious event! Your phone call starts the process. The earlier we receive your consignment, the more time we have to market your numismatic treasures to the world, and the higher your prices realized. Become a part of the numismatic history that will be made in Long Beach! Please call one of our Consignment Directors today for more details at 1-800-872-6467 ext. 222 (for Coins) or ext. 555 (for Currency). We have 24-hour voice mail, so call any time. Let Heritage deliver for you!

Consignment Deadlines:

Exnumia: July 20
Currency: July 26
World Coins: July 26
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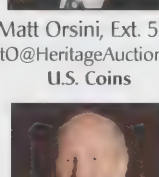
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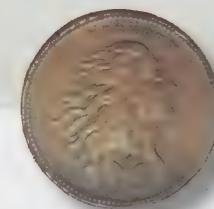
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THE TROY WISEMAN COLLECTION

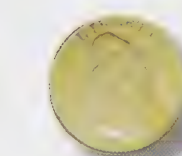
PART ONE, FEATURED AT THE LONG BEACH
SEPTEMBER 2006 HERITAGE SIGNATURE AUCTIONS



1793 Wreath 1C
S-9
XF45 PCGS



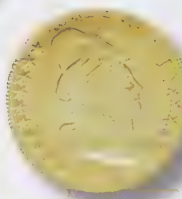
1793 1C
Liberty Cap
S-13, Low R.4
VF20 PCGS



1796 No Stars \$2.50
Bass-3002
AU55 PCGS



1794 \$1
B-1, BB-1
XF45 PCGS



1795 \$5
Small Eagle
B. 1-B
XF45 PCGS



1795 \$10
13 Leaves, T-2
VF30 PCGS



1795 Draped Bust \$1
Off-Center, B-14
AU55 PCGS



1796 Chain 1C
S-3
AU53 PCGS



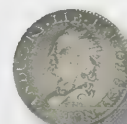
1796 25C
B-2
VF25 PCGS



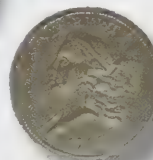
1808 \$2.50
VF35 PCGS



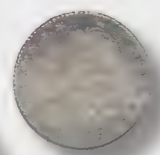
1796 50C
16 Stars, O-102
VF25 PCGS



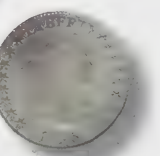
1792 H10C
Judd-7
XF40 PCGS



1793 1/2 C
C-1, B-1
AU55 PCGS



1809 10C
JR-1
MS64 PCGS



1796 10C
JR-4
AU55 PCGS



1794 H10C
V-2, LM-2, R.5
AU58 PCGS

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- to benefit WorldOrphans.org worldwide ministry -

TROY WISEMAN is dedicating proceeds from the auction of his magnificent coin collection to World Orphans, a ministry he co-founded in 1994 with his wife, Tina. World Orphans has funded the opening of more than 500 orphanages in 46 developing countries, providing more than 25,000 children with love, care and hope for the future. In fiscal 2006, 200-plus new homes will be funded by World Orphans. Friends and associates of Mr. Wiseman, Founder, Chairman, and CEO of the InvestLinc Group, will not be surprised by this generosity.

Mr. Wiseman founded InvestLinc Financial Services (www.investlinc.com) in 1992 to serve the relationship and intellectual needs of former entrepreneurs and business

executives. InvestLinc establishes financial and personal commitments from all parties, creating true partnerships based on character and trust to empower the entrepreneur. Mr. Wiseman also founded InvestLinc Bridge Fund, Apportum Consulting Corp., and was co-founder of Cami'z, Inc., the apparel company that grew to become B.U.M. International, Inc.



Early New York State Merchants' Tokens

- 1 ALBANY. Church Penny. Copper.
Struck by the First Presbyterian
church 1790.



- 1a N. Safford. Temperance House.
280 North Market Street.

- 2 BUFFALO. Patterson Bros. Whole-
sale Dealers in Hardware. Cop-
per.

- 3 W. A. Thomson. 9 Webster Bldg.
Importer of Cutlery, etc. An
anvil. Copper.

- 4 W. A. Thomson. Importer of Hard-
ware. Reduced size. Copper.

- 5 LANSINGBURGH. Walsh's Gen-
eral Store. Plow. Copper.

- 6 Walsh. Figure of Lafayette. Cop-
per.

- 7 Walsh. Similar. Lansingburgh. Cop-
per.



- 7a POUGHKEEPSIE. Henderson and
Lossing. Clocks, Watches, Jew-
elry.

- 8 SYRACUSE. Hiram Judson. Watch-
maker and Silversmith. Copper.

- 9 WINDSOR. C. A. M. Smith. Gen-
eral Dealer in Dry Goods,
Groceries etc. Copper.



EARLY NEW YORK STATE MERCHANTS' TOKENS

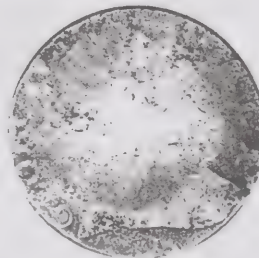
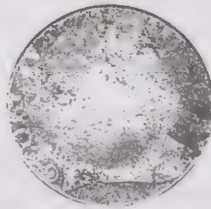
Wayne Raymond
Early New York City and State Merchants'
Tokens 1789-1850
Copyright 1936

MAGNIFICENT ALBANY CHURCH PENNY

Variety with D



(Enlarged)



(Enlarged)

Lot No. 254

- 254 Undated (ca. 1790 or later) Albany Church Penny. With D. Copper. Extremely Fine. Br.1170. 112.5 gns. Boldly overstruck on a counterfeit George III Halfpenny. Both the obverse and reverse are a pleasing, variegated olive brown and pale golden brown. Among the finest known for the type and variety. We cannot remember seeing a nicer Albany Church Penny. The design was sharply struck, about centered in the middle of the reverse of the George III counterfeit halfpenny. The undertype's figure of Britannia is visible slanting down to the left. Full D, CHURCH clear, "Penny" bold. Remarkably, even the outer serrated border around the type is sharp. The undertype's George III bust is mostly obliterated by the Albany Church Penny overstrike but portions of the legend are still visible on the obverse and reverse. **Extremely rare** both as a type and as overstruck, the cataloguer knows of only five examples, including a fully struck piece in a Long Island collection that may qualify as the finest, one in a Providence, Rhode Island collection overstruck on a counterfeit George III halfpenny like this, Robison:211 to Roper:341, and Picker:275.

Albany Church pennies of both varieties are known over host coins but despite what Breen has to say, it is rare to be able to identify the host coin underneath one of them. There is a Without D variety known that shows incuse the Half Cent obverse type of 1809-32. Another Without D piece is known struck over (or by) a ca. 1891 Montreal jeweler's store card (the Picker coin). These Albany Church pennies were authorized on January 4, 1790 by the First Presbyterian Church in Albany, New York. The church decided to issue uniface copper tokens valued at 12 to the shilling, to be used by the congregation in lieu of the counterfeit and worn coppers they were putting in the collection plates. No one knows what the "D" stood for. (SEE COLOR PLATE)

Ex George Fuld on August 19, 1961.

Note molet

ATTRACTIVE ALBANY CHURCH PENNY

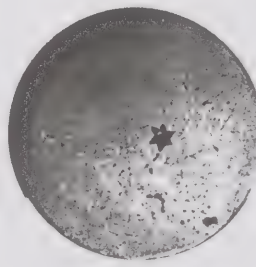
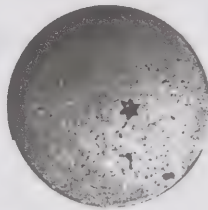
Variety Without D



(Enlarged)



Lot No. 255



(Enlarged)

- 255 Undated (ca. 1790 or later) Albany Church Penny. Without D. Copper. Very Fine. 96.7 gns. Nice, light golden brown in color on both sides. Possibly struck on a host coin although no obvious traces of an undertype remain. Counter-stamped side fairly sharp, CHURCH clear and bold, "Penny" fully legible if soft at the bottoms, curl of 'y' quite soft. Partial serrated border most visible around the top, quite soft at the lower left. Interesting, small six-pointed molet (voided star) counterstamped in about the center of the reverse, whose function and meaning is obscure. (SEE COLOR PLATE)

Ex F.C.C. Boyd Estate.

5002 a Ruskin ave
St. Louis, Mo.

Dear Mrs. Newman,
I made several
attempts to call you
but time seemed
to be busy &
anyway I'll
write right of you and
"Linda" so much.
I hope you are both good!

NOTIFY
YOUR
CORRESPONDENCE
OFFICE

ST. LOUIS
JUN 1 1914

Guess who I'll do
my best? Dr. R. R. R. R. R.
I'll be the other one.
I'm going to come on with
Mrs. Al. Goodman. I'll
stay from 3 to 4. I'll
stay 3-4 day - guess I'll
be on for awhile. They had
a boy - Blonde - very blonde.
But I'm sure it's Linda!
This baby is really a boy
in every sense of the
word - and Linda was
so good and sweet.

Remember what I
was telling you - about
me - Well - it must be true.
I have all the symptoms
anyway - Thrills! # # #
See! Best regards to all -
Mrs. Chenoweth.

Heritage Auction. Sent by Ken Bussell 1/23/07 at my request.

Platinum Night Vol I #3/07

Rare Albany Church Penny

746

(1790) Albany Church Penny, D Above CHURCH VF35

PCGS. Breen-1170. One of the great coinage curiosities of the American colonies and the early federal period—ranking right alongside the equally enigmatic Higley coppers—are these communion tokens. Little is known of their origins. Crosby did not include them in his classic book on colonials, but they have become part-and-parcel of the series over the past century or so.

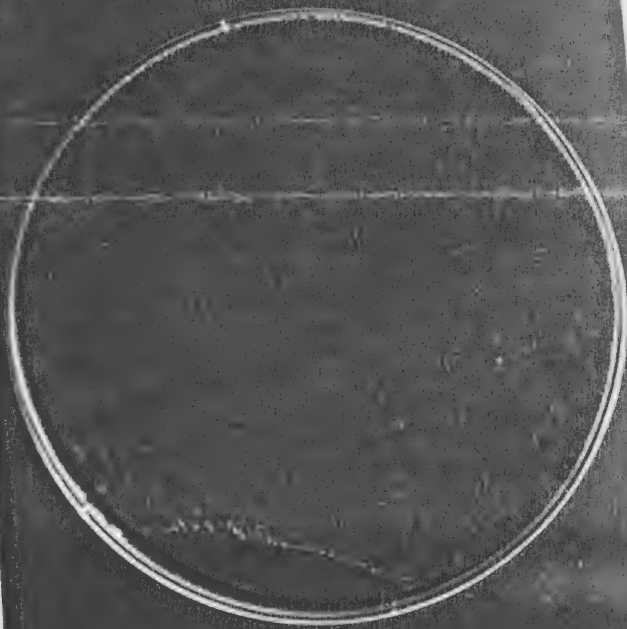
It is not even known if the Albany Church Penny was made for communions, but it is logical to presume so, for such pieces go back at least four centuries in the English series, many of which are extremely rare. Only the Scottish pieces are common, thanks to the fervency of the Scots as well as to their tendency to save everything. Not so the American church pieces. In fact, rarely did our colonial churches use these, as part of the tradition of each church member taking one upon entering the sanctuary on Sunday morning, using it for communion, and then surrendering it upon leaving the ceremony for the day. As Breen says in his *Complete Encyclopedia*, on page 131: they were both tokens and symbols of partaking in the service, and "therefore constituted a kind of proof of membership whose purpose was to prevent hostile outsiders (royal spies, etc.) from attending services and betraying members during the decades when all such unorthodox religious observances were illegal." He speaks of their use in England of the 1630s and slightly later, a period leading up to and during the English Civil War. The practice continued as a tradition for many years thereafter, and occasionally was taken up in the colonies. Certainly, Breen's comment about royal spies remained germane in the early American federal period of the 1790s. The state headquarters of early New York certainly experienced spying. But it has never been proven if this pertained to the Church Pennies of Albany.

Church tokens were actually made for one of two uses: proof of communion, as Breen so aptly describes, or for placing in the collection plate, perhaps as a donative—a special gift, as at Christmas (representing a prepaid cash contribution to the church, as in tithing). The purpose of the Albany pieces remains unknown. Nothing is known, either, of the issuer or of the manufacturer of the Albany Penny. Perhaps it is better said that the maker is forgotten. As well, it is presumed that these tokens were of local manufacture, for so they appear by their texture. That they were used, however, is evident. All of the few known pieces are quite worn, and Breen even declares that grades are "irrelevant." Maybe so, but not to the collector seeking a fine piece to represent this mysterious "coin" of early America.

Why are they so rare? Given the worn state of the known specimens, it must be assumed that some perished, despite the users' tendency to preserve them. The ultimate reason, however, is that precious few were ever made to begin with. Churches of the era had small congregations, typically a few dozen members at any given time. Pieces are known with small counterstamps, and they generally fall into two classes—those with a large, cursive "D" above the word "CHURCH" and those without. The "D" probably stood for the British "Penny," an ancient abbreviation stemming ultimately from the Roman Empire's coin called a denarius, whose abbreviation was always the same letter. A penny was 1/12th of a silver shilling, a common commercial coin—money of "the populace" both in Rome and in early America.

The surfaces are dark brown in the fields with significantly lighter brown over the highpoints. Here indeed is an excellent example of one of America's numismatic mysteries, fit for the best of collections and worthy of any.

From The Troy Wiseman Collection, Part Two.(#610)



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Auction: 422

**(1790) PENNY Albany Church Penny, D Above
CHURCH VF35 PCGS. Breen-1170. One of the great
coinage curiosities of the America...**



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Sold for: **\$74,750.00** (includes BP) Bid Source: Live: Floor

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Auction Type: **Signature** (The floor auction is being held in Orlando, FL on January 3-6, 2007. Online bidding ends at 10:00PM CT the night before the floor session for this lot. Your secret maximum bid will compete for you during the floor auction, and it is possible that you may be outbid on the floor after internet bidding closes.)

Number of Bidders: 9

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Description

(1790) PENNY Albany Church Penny, D Above CHURCH VF35 PCGS. Breen-1170. One of the great coinage curiosities of the American colonies and the early federal period--ranking right alongside the equally enigmatic Higley coppers--are these communion tokens. Little is known of their origins. Crosby did not include them in his classic book on colonials, but they have become part-and-parcel of the series over the past century or so. It is not even known if the Albany Church Penny was made for communions, but it is logical to presume so, for such pieces go back at least four centuries in the English series, many of which are extremely rare. Only the Scottish pieces are common, thanks to the fervency of the Scots as well as to their tendency to save everything. Not so the American church pieces. In fact, rarely did our colonial churches use these, as part of the tradition of each church member taking one upon entering the sanctuary on Sunday morning, using it for communion, and then surrendering it upon leaving the ceremony for the day. As Breen says in his *Complete Encyclopedia*, on page 131: they were both tokens and symbols of partaking in the service, and "therefore constituted a kind of proof of membership whose purpose was to prevent hostile outsiders (royal spies, etc.) from attending services and betraying members during the decades when all such unorthodox religious observances were illegal." He speaks of their use in England of the 1630s and slightly later, a period leading up to and during the English Civil War. The practice continued as a tradition for many years thereafter, and occasionally was taken up in the colonies. Certainly, Breen's comment about royal spies remained germane in the early American federal period of the 1790s. The state headquarters of early New York certainly experienced spying. But it has never been proven if this pertained to the Church Pennies of Albany. Church tokens were actually made for one of two uses: proof of communion, as Breen so aptly describes, or for placing in the collection plate, perhaps as a donative--a special gift, as at Christmas (representing a prepaid cash contribution to the church, as in titling). The purpose of the Albany pieces remains unknown. Nothing is known, either, of the issuer or of the manufacturer of the Albany Penny. Perhaps it is better said that the maker is forgotten. As well, it is presumed that these tokens were of local manufacture, for so they appear by their texture. That they were used, however, is evident. All of the few known pieces are quite worn, and Breen even declares that grades are "irrelevant." Maybe so, but not to the collector seeking a fine piece to represent this mysterious "coin" of early America.

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From *The Troy Wiseman Collection, Part Two*.

Previous Prices from Heritage Auctions

Lot	Date	Grade	Service	Realized
Auction 422, Lot 746	Saturday, January 6, 2007	35	PCGS	\$74,750.00

View prices realized from this item in other grades (you must be signed in)

PLEASE NOTE: All prices realized reflect the final hammer price PLUS the buyer's premium in auctions that charge a buyer's premium. Each item has a notation at the top of the listing indicating whether that lot included a buyer's premium. Example: A item that sells with a final hammer price of \$100 and a 15% buyer's premium will display with a price realized of \$115. All information listed is intended to be as accurate as possible, but errors are possible. Please use this guide carefully and inform us of any inaccuracies.

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30	---	---	---	---	---	---
35	---	---	---	---	---	---
40	---	---	---	---	---	---

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Indian Head quarter eagles and half eagles include the initials BLP for the designer. Who was BLP?

- ☐ Brandon Lynn Parker
- ☐ Bela Lyon Pratt
- ☐ Benjamin Louis Phillips
- ☐ B.L. Peale

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Population Guide

Service	Grade	Population	Population of Higher Grade	Total Population	Mintage
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NGC	35	0	0	0	

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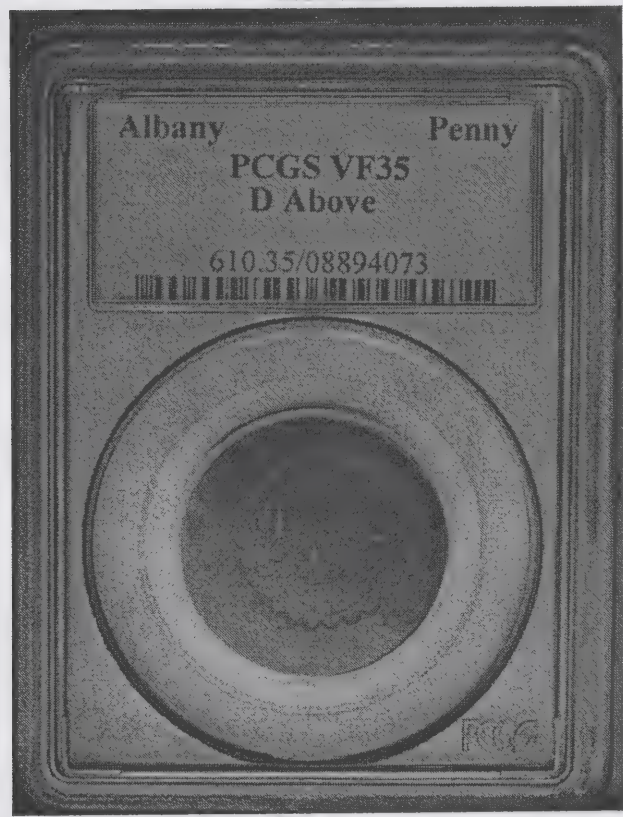


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

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Rare Albany Church Penny

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From The Troy Wiseman Collection, Part Two. (#610)

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The E-Sylum: Volume 10, Number 3, January 21, 2007, Article 13

ALBANY CHURCH PENNY INFORMATION SOUGHT: CAPITAL D FOR PENCE?

Eric Newman writes: "In the Jan. 14, 2007 E-Sylum there was an interesting item about the Albany Church Penny. I have been researching this important subject for five years but never have completed writing my article because I need a little more information. Perhaps our readers can help.

"Some of the Albany Church tokens have had a letter 'D' added to the die. I would like to know if there is any printed newspaper, book, pamphlet, calculation table, price list, label or other printed item prepared before 1800 which used a capital "D" rather than a small "d" as an abbreviation for "pence". I am aware of instances where Pennyweight was represented by D. Our readers have enough retrievable knowledge to answer my inquiry. I would appreciate their input - what a wonderful way to do research!"

[Eric's question is a touch^g one to answer, but perhaps some of the colonial collectors among us will have knowledge of such a reference. -Editor]

Wayne Homren, Editor

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To read the complete article, see:

<http://timesunion.com/AspStories/story.asp?storyID=552643>

To view the Heritage lot description, see:

http://coins.heritageauctions.com/common/view_item.php?Sale No=422&Lot No=746

[The catalog description echoes portions of the Breen Encyclopedia entry on the Albany Church Penny, summarizing that "The purpose of the Albany pieces remains unknown. Nothing is known, either, of the issuer or of the manufacturer of the Albany Penny. Perhaps it is better said that the maker is forgotten. As well, it is presumed that these tokens were of local manufacture, for so they appear by their texture. That they were used, however, is evident. All of the few known pieces are quite worn..."

We bibliophiles hate to take "nothing is known" as our final answer. The cataloger may not know anything more about the piece, and we may not either, but we do know that surely SOMEone, SOMEwhere, SOMETIME in the past two centuries has recorded SOMETHing of interest.

The Times-Union article was far more specific, noting that "1,000 or so" were initially minted. I was unable to find this mintage figure in Breen, but did find it in a great article by Howard R. Kurth in the April 1944 issue of The Numismatic Scrapbook Magazine (p284-9). The article was based on a presentation to the Albany Numismatic Society and cites an 1850 work by Joel Munsell titled 'The Annals of Albany', where it is recorded that "on the 4th of January 1790 the Trustees of the First Presbyterian Church resolved that one thousand coppers be stamped 'Church Penny' and placed in the hands of the treasurer, for the purpose of exchanging with the congregation at the rate of twelve for one shilling, in order to add respect to the weekly collections." The circulating coinage of the day in Albany consisted primarily of "coins from other states, bungtown tokens, and old British halfpennies mostly worn smooth or counterfeit."

This background enabled me to make some sense of the coin's image (found on both the Times-Union and Heritage web sites). The central portion of the design is deep, consistent with the counterstamping of a host coin. Around the outer edges of the host coin are the difficult-to-read but readily apparent remnants of inscriptions. These could be the legitimately worn inscriptions of the host coin or the intentionally "worn-looking" devices of an evasion copper. These heavily worn (and worn-looking) pieces were quite plentiful in circulation at the time, making a ready supply of planchets for counterstamping.

The Kurth article references several Numismatist articles of 1936 and 1939, and discusses the specimens owned by leading collectors including Mickley and Bushnell. The Numismatic Indexes Project (NIP), where I located the Scrapbook article reference, also lists a number of related articles in The Colonial Newsletter. -Editor]

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<http://www.cnn.com/2007/EDUCATION/01/07/overdue.book.ap/>

[The book, which was due June 2, 1960, carried a \$171.32 late fee. See the following item for a related discussion on library deaccessioning policies. -Editor]

ON LIBRARY DEACCESSIONING POLICIES

Regarding the previous story of the library book returned after forty-seven years, Len Augsburger writes: "This reminds me of a story Dave Bowers told - while a student at Penn State he was allowed to check out a certain volume for only 24 hours per the library rules, even though no one had checked out the book for one hundred years or so!"

[The Bowers anecdote relates to last week's item about the purpose of libraries. While the 24-hour limit is harsh for a book in little demand, there's no question that the Penn State library was in the business of collecting material for the ages. Had they discarded or sold the book somewhere along the way, it wouldn't have been available century later.

I ran into a similar situation when I first discovered the four-volume H. E. Kroos work, "A Documentary History of Banking and Currency in the United States." I don't think it had ever been checked out of the library until I came along. I pointed this out to the library clerk and offered to buy the set to no avail. I don't know if the response was based on stewardship of the collection or simple bureaucratic inertia, but the volumes remained in the library. Eventually I found my own set. -Editor]

Coincidentally, Dick Johnson writes: "When I was a resident of Danbury Connecticut I visited the Danbury Public Library fairly frequently. In spring 1974, at a sale of surplus books, I picked up a small run of the American Numismatic Society's Numismatic Notes and Monographs. They had deaccessioned these a month or two before.

"The card pocket and "Date Due" sheet were pasted in the back of each. The donor's name and 1935 date of donation were handwritten in the front. Every one of those NN&Ms were donated to the Danbury Library by nearby resident Anna Hyatt Huntington (she and her husband, Archer, were major ANS benefactors).

"Not one of those monographs had been checked out since 1935! Not one entry on the Date Due sheet - reason enough to deaccession. [Unless your mission is to collect for the ages, of course. -Editor] Mrs. Huntington had died October 4th the year before. The library had kept those monographs on the shelf all those years while she was still alive. Was the reason for deaccessioning that she was now dead?

The E-Sylum v10#2, January 14, 2007

esylum at binhost.com [esylum at binhost.com](mailto:esylum@binhost.com)

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Welcome to The E-Sylum: Volume 10, Number 2, January 14, 2007:
an electronic publication of the Numismatic Bibliomania Society.
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WAYNE'S WORDS

Among our recent subscribers are Matthew Jones, Senior Cataloger for Bowers & Merena Auctions (courtesy of Gar Travis), Kris Lockyear, Duane Harper, Brian Zimmer, P. J. Lanham, Jim Petroff, Paul E. Goodspeed, Jeffrey Laplante, and Tim L. Shuck. Welcome aboard! We now have 1,038 subscribers.

I'm not sure where this latest surge of subscribers came from, but I'm glad they're all here. Our readers include numismatic bibliophiles, researchers and writers, and anyone with an interest in learning more historical background and lore about numismatics. This week's issue, while lengthy, is a good example of what The E-Sylum is all about.

The issue opens with two new items from our sponsor, the Numismatic Bibliomania Society. First, the latest issue of the print journal, The Asylum, is at the printer. This provides an appropriate opening to review the difference between this email newsletter (The E-Sylum), and the NBS print journal. Secondly, NBS member Howard Daniel will be representing the organization at a table at the upcoming ANA convention in Charlotte.

Many E-Sylum issues include news and reviews of numismatic books old and new, and this issue discusses a book on Dutch Manhattan and the Founding of New York which has found many readers among collectors of colonial U.S. coins. We also have further discussion of 'Double Daggers', the historical novel about the EID-MAR coin commemorating the assassination of Julius Caesar.

Other E-Sylum fixtures are our readers' dead-on followups to queries from previous issues, and these have generated a lot of great reading for this issue. Dick Johnson shares his knowledge about Loubat's 'Medallic History of the U.S.', and he and others provide a great deal of background on the famous 'Inspecting the First Coinage' painting at the U.S. Mint in Philadelphia. Another very detailed item concerns William Woodin's acquisition of a trove of pattern coins from the U.S. Mint.

We sometimes critique numismatic auction catalog descriptions, and in this issue we look at a recent offering of the Albany Church Penny. Rounding out the issue are items on a recent high-profile coin robbery, spy coins in Canada, library deaccessioning policies, and Emperor Norton of San Francisco. Finally, wouldn't it be great if you discovered three chests containing an immense quantity of gold and silver coin? Well, not if you can't keep a secret. To learn what happened to George Kelway and his 1786 windfall, read on. Have a great week, everyone.



Wayne Homren
Numismatic Bibliomania Society

LATEST ISSUE OF THE ASYLUM AT THE PRINTER

The latest issue of our print journal, The Asylum, is currently at the printer. The contents include:

- * Alison Frankel - Discovering the Numismatic Bibliomania Society
- * Leonard Augsburger - Woodward/Chapman Correspondence at the American Numismatic Society
- * E. Tomlinson Fort - Sir Frank Merry Stenton and the Coinage of the Anglo-Saxons
- * Leonard Augsburger - The ANS Chapman Files: Major William Boerum Wetmore

While The E-Sylum is free to everyone, only members of the Numismatic Bibliomania Society receive The Asylum. Membership is only \$15 to addresses in the U.S., \$20 elsewhere. There is a membership application available on the NBS web site at this address:
http://www.coinbooks.org/club_nbs_member_app.html

To join, print the application and return it with your check to the address printed on the application. We'd love to have more of you as members!

NBS CLUB TABLE AT ANA CHARLOTTE SHOW

Howard A. Daniel III writes: "I will be manning a club table for the Numismatic Bibliomania Society (and IBNS, NI and PCF) at the Charlotte American Numismatic Association convention March 16th to 18th. If you are attending and find someone there you think will be interested in joining NBS or the other three organizations, please send them to the table for an application.

If you have "extra" numismatic and related books, pamphlets, journals, etc. (and coins, tokens, paper money, etc.), that you would like to see in the hands of a young and/or new numismatist, please bring them to the table or have someone who is attending the convention bring them for you.

In the past, NBS members have also shipped or mailed packages to my residence and to the convention. A flyer and application form goes with each item so they know the organization that is providing the handouts. Contact me at [HADaniel3 at msn.com](mailto:HADaniel3@msn.com) to make any special arrangements.

I didn't attend the recent FUN Show in Orlando for the first time in over a decade - I was under doctor's orders to stay close to home because I had not completely healed from some recent surgeries. It was very gratifying that many people emailed, mailed and called to say they missed me at the show and hoped I get better soon."

[Many thanks once again to Howard for carrying the torch for NBS at so many major shows throughout the year. We wish him the best of luck in his continuing recovery from surgery. Please do consider sending Howard some of your inexpensive duplicate and unneeded numismatic literature for handouts at the table. -Editor]

BOOK: ISLAND AT THE CENTER OF THE WORLD BY RUSSELL SHORTO

Roger S. Siboni writes: "There is a recently published book entitled 'The Island at the Center of The World - The Untold Story of Dutch Manhattan and the Founding of New York' by Russell Shorto which has been making its way through the Colonial Numismatic circuit. In my view,

E-Sylum Jan. 14, 2007

"Feuchtwanger could have obtained this alloy from Germany, made it himself by adding nickel to a brass alloy, or ordered it made at Scovill, I suspect it was the later. One of his proposed alloys was 53 copper, 29 zinc and 18 nickel. (German-silver has a range of formulae: 55-65 copper, 5-25 nickel, 10-30 zinc.)

"German-silver is a hard alloy. It is ideal for medals to be carried or worn (but not next to the skin -- it turns skin green). It has been used for pocket pieces, keytags and watchfobs. The name was changed to "nickel-silver" in America and England during World War I for anti-German sentiment. It is still widely used by medalmakers today for striking items that are likely to be subjected to very hard use.

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"Buzz words do not lead to clear numismatic writing or easy understanding by the reader. Even after collecting U.S. coins for 67 years, this 76-year old collector had to read the sentence containing "flyers" several times to understand the writer was talking about Flying Eagle cents. (To me "flyers" without a capital is printed pages.) Best to adopt a style of capitalizing type coin names."

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Monday, January 15, 2007 America Online: EricNumis

*In Heritage
auction
Jan 3, 2007*

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To read the complete article, see:

<http://timesunion.com/AspStories/story.asp?storyID=552643>

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http://coins.heritageauctions.com/common/view_item.php?Sale_No=422&Lot_No=746

[The catalog description echoes portions of the Breen Encyclopedia entry on the Albany Church Penny, summarizing that "The purpose of the Albany pieces remains unknown. Nothing is known, either, of the issuer or of the manufacturer of the Albany Penny. Perhaps it is better said that the maker is forgotten. As well, it is presumed that these tokens were of local manufacture, for so they appear by their texture. That they were used, however, is evident. All of the few known pieces are quite worn..."

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The Numismatic Bibliomania Society is a non-profit organization promoting numismatic literature. See our web site at coinbooks.org.

To submit items for publication in The E-Sylum, write to the Editor at this address: whomren@coinlibrary.com

To subscribe go to: <https://my.binhost.com/lists/listinfo/esylum>

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The E-Sylum: Volume 10, Number 2, January 14, 2007, Article 18

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To read the complete article, see: [Full Story](#)

To view the Heritage lot description, see: [Heritage Lot Description](#)

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alloy. He tried to persuade the U.S. Mint to use his "Feuchtwanger's composition" for a U.S. coin metal but was unsuccessful. There is no silver in German-silver but its early use was obviously in imitation of silver.

"Feuchtwanger could have obtained this alloy from Germany, made it himself by adding nickel to a brass alloy, or ordered it made at Scovill, I suspect it was the later. One of his proposed alloys was 53 copper, 29 zinc and 18 nickel. (German-silver has a range of formulae: 55-65 copper, 5-25 nickel, 10-30 zinc.)

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see next page

to figure it out would be to look into the gaps which exist in the Smithsonian's pattern collection today. I do not remember the length of Snowden's tenure but the Mint collection has large gaps of items struck in the mid-1870s. Among the items received include the 1872 Amazonian gold set, the two 1874 Bickford eagles, the two sets of 1875 sailor's head gold patterns, the two silver sets of 1876 dollar patterns and many 1877-1896 dated pieces.

"It is likely that many of the items dated in the 1870s came from Col. Snowden directly. Many of the patterns dated after 1872 were extremely rare at the time, then they became more common after this deal. For example, only three silver (Mint, Garrett and Vicksburg), one copper (Woodside-Brand) and one white metal schoolgirl dollar (offered in 1895 Scott auction - purchased by Brand in 1896) were known at the time. Today about another twenty pieces in silver and copper are now known.

"Woodin did appear to have plenty of duplicates and offered them via Edgar Adams in one 1911 auction sale and three fixed price lists. Woodin also sold his regular gold collection at this time (excluding his Half Eagles, which went to Newcomer in the mid 1920s). One wonders if he needed the money to cover his legal fees in this matter.

"In any event, many of the patterns he received appear to have ended up with the great collectors of the day such as H.O. Granberg, Waldo Newcomer, W.W.C. Wilson and Virgil Brand to name a few. Edgar Adams himself still had plenty of patterns by 1935 when he sold them in a Thomas Elder auction. Woodin is also known to have had many of the 1883 and 1896 patterns in his possession.

"I do not know if the Newcomer inventories that sold in the Ford library mention the source of his patterns although it is obvious that he obtained many of Woodin's pieces. The ANA Centennial Anthology did have an article on Newcomer's inventory - I do not know if it specifically mentions how much Newcomer spent on his patterns and/or how many parcels from Woodin he received.

"I am also unaware of any specific inventory existing of the Granberg collection - his Adams & Woodin book does exist and was described as heavily annotated. It is important to note that at least some of Newcomer's patterns also originated from Granberg - the 1872 Amazonian gold set being one of them as he apparently purchased the set from Woodin. The Brand journal notes purchases from Adams in 1911 including ten 1877 half dollars in silver and one of the two known sets of 1875 Sailor's Head gold patterns to name just a few. He also later purchased W.W.C. Wilson's Gobrecht dollars and his 1874 gold Bickford \$10 in 1919."

[R.V. Dewey's information on Woodin's sales to Newcomer and Granberg came from "Abe Kosoff Remembers", p378 (a June 25, 1980 Coin World column). Abe lunched weekly with Fred Boyd and got a lot of this information from him. "Abe Kosoff Remembers" and Dave Bowers' "Abe Kosoff: Dean of Numismatics" are filled with great tales, well worth reading and re-reading. -Editor]

GERMAN-SILVER FIRST DEVELOPED IN AMERICA IN 1837

Dick Johnson writes: "To answer the question proposed by R.V. Dewey on Flying Eagle pattern coins in last week's E-Sylum, 'German-silver' was found as natural alloys in, obviously, Germany. It was imported into England in 1830. But it was famed New York City dentist, Dr. Lewis Feuchtwanger, who, in 1837, after experimenting with alloys, issued his own tokens in this composition.

"Feuchtwanger, it is well known, went to Scovill in Waterbury to have his one-cent and three-cent tokens and his storecards struck in this

ON THE RELATIVE VALUES OF EARLY AMERICAN COINS AND MONEY

John Kraljevich submitted these notes to set us straight on the relative values of early American coins and money. Thanks! -Editor

The recent blurb on the Albany Church Penny included one of the most frequently-made errors about early American coins and money: that pounds, shillings and pence in the colonies, Confederation, and United States were the same as British pounds, shillings, and pence. Even though the names were the same, the pounds, shillings, and pence of the various American polities had no more to do with British pounds, shillings, and pence than US dollars have to do with Australian dollars today.



Pegged against the Spanish milled dollar in the era ca.1790, it took eight New York shillings to equal a dollar, but just four shillings sixpence in British sterling. To render this decimally, it means a British penny was worth .0185 Spanish dollars (equal to 54 to a dollar) but a New York penny was worth .0104 Spanish dollars (96 to a dollar). So considering an Albany church penny as equal to a British penny overvalues it by almost 2-1.

In real life, the "penny" was essentially equal to a "copper," a non legal tender unit whose value floated in the marketplace quite independent of the pegged relationship of the Spanish milled dollar to the British pound or the New York pound. During the Copper Panic of 1789, the value of coppers descended as low as 160 to the dollar in parts of New York. By 1790, it had only barely stabilized and varied from locale to locale.

Given this non legal tender status, had the Church Treasurer wanted "British sterling" in the treasury, he would definitely not have asked for donations of copper: just silver or gold would have fit the bill.

Hope this clears up the misunderstanding a little -- it's a very common one in books by major historians of the era!

To read the earlier E-Sylum article, see: [MORE ON THE ALBANY FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH'S PENNY](http://www.coinbooks.org/esylum_v15n40a14.html) (www.coinbooks.org/esylum_v15n40a14.html)

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NOTES ON THE ALBANY CHURCH PENNY

Katie de Silva (aka Katherine Jaeger) submitted the following thoughts on the Albany Church Penny. Thanks! -Editor

A most enjoyable issue of *The E-Sylum* last week. I love seeing the brainy, fun and useful contributions of friends such as Dick Johnson, Kay Freeman and Dennis Tucker (among many others) that appear each week.

Richard Gascoyne of the First Presbyterian Church inquired about the famous Albany Church Penny. I used the same quotation he cited, of his church's resolution authorizing the issue, in my coverage of the penny as Number 37 in Whitman's *100 Greatest American Medals and Tokens*. I found the quotation W. Elliot Woodward's sale of April 28, 1863, Lot 2079. So interest in these pieces is pretty well established!



Walter Breen's Complete Encyclopedia of U.S. and Colonial Coins is available in many libraries. It devotes a brief chapter to church and communion tokens, and states that their use dates back to the 1635 Liturgy of the Scottish Presbyterian Church. He lists 14 different American issues, and does not include any minted after 1800. Probably the scarcity of small coinage was the main reason for the Albany penny issue. In 1792, according to an online history of the City of Troy, NY, another Presbyterian church issued paper scrip: www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nyrensse/troy.htm.

It is my guess that members of First Presbyterian stopped using their church pennies as soon as Federal cents became available in 1793 or soon afterward.

I found a reference in an 1898 issue of the *Ladies' Home Journal* exhorting readers to abandon the practice of tithing only a penny. She said, "such an offering is an insult to God and His church, and the sooner people see the matter in this hard, true light, the better."

To read the earlier E-Sylum article, see: [QUERY: ALBANY CHURCH PENNY INFORMATION SOUGHT](http://www.coinbooks.org/esylum_v15n38a12.html) (www.coinbooks.org/esylum_v15n38a12.html)

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QUERY: WHAT IS A PORTUGALOZER?

Tom Wetter writes:

Question: What is a Portugalozer? Google is stumped. Thomas Elder has one catalogued in his November 1934 sale. His exact listing is "PORTUGALOZER OF JOHN III

Well, I'm stumped, too. Any ideas, readers? -Editor